

Oral History Outline

MISSION PRESIDENT

This outline provides suggested topics to include in your oral history. Oral historians should work with narrators under the direction of the Holy Ghost to customize the direction of each oral history. If you need assistance building an outline, please contact your Church History Department representative.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Background

Family background

- Parents
- Early years
- Friends and dating
- Marriage and children (where applicable)

Church background

- Religious background
- Baptism and conversion
- Gospel study, including the Book of Mormon

Education and professional background

- School
- Professional training
- Work outside and in the home
- Service in the community

Call and Orientation

Response to the call

Preparation to serve

Family and associates' reaction

Family situation

Feelings and events from the calling until arrival in the mission

Mission leadership seminar

Oral History Outline: Mission President

Mission President's Perspective

Arrival in the mission

State of the mission

Responsibilities

Emphasis with missionaries and Church members

Using the talents of senior couples, sister missionaries, and elders

Administrative challenges and successes

Mission Background

Mission boundaries

Demographics (number of members, language and literacy, education, religious background, and so on)

Broader historical events, societal trends

Missionary demographics (elders, sisters, couples)

New Church members

Public image of the Church

Legal or governmental restraints on missionary work

Dominant religious groups, other major influences on the work

Beginnings of the Church in the mission

Pioneers

Oral History Outline: Mission President

Mission Background (cont.)

Mission history stories

What do missionaries and Church leaders need to know to better understand the area?

Mission President's Work

Impact of Preach My Gospel or prior proselytizing approaches

Types of missionary work (social media, tracting, street boards, contacting, and so on)

Ministering to missionaries

Temple recommend interviews

Role of the temple

Response to the Book of Mormon

Creating new districts

Opening or closing cities or areas

Mission presidency (callings, assignments, influence of counselors)

Interaction with stake and district presidents

Training and working with local Church leaders

Balance of missionary and Church member work

Relationship with Church leaders

General Authority and Area Seventy mission tours

Humanitarian projects and missionary service hours

Oral History Outline: Mission President

Mission President's Work (cont.)

Welfare and Perpetual Education Fund

Family history

Church history

Seminaries and Institutes

Physical facilities

Companionship

Counseling together

Relationship nurturing and growth

Roles, division of labor

Projects

Travel

Family

Conclusion

Witnessing the hand of the Lord

Transformative experiences

Spiritual experiences

Knowledge gained

Testimony
