Indexing Is Vital
How FamilySearch Indexing Blesses Lives
“Members are encouraged to participate in FamilySearch indexing which is \textit{vital} to family history and temple work” (emphasis added).
Family History Is Changing
from hard, time-consuming, and tedious to...
Easy, Fast, and Plentiful...
The Lord Is Hastening His Work!

More information is available than ever before and tons more is being added every day!

What used to take years and much travel and expense can now be discovered in seconds from home.

Now nearly everyone can find more information about their ancestors and it is getting better every day.
As a Result

- Hearts are turning.
- Ancestors are being remembered.
- Ordinances are being performed.
- Families are being protected.
What Is Making this Happen?

Answer: (in part) FamilySearch Indexing!
What Is FamilySearch Indexing?

Ancestors’ records…

are photographed…

indexed (typed) by volunteers…

then published online!
Indexing Is Vital Video

Download the video here
family history and indexing
family history and indexing

turns other's ❤️'s
family history
and indexing

turns your

-turns other's

LOVE

THE CHURCH OF
Jesus Christ
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Give Me More Details!

- Indexing can be done by almost anyone, anywhere, at anytime.
- Volunteer as much or as little time as you want.
- No family history experience is required.
- Start or stop whenever you want.
- Another indexer reviews your information.
Remember…

Every name you index represents one more chance that someone will find his or her missing ancestor and be able to take the ancestor’s name to the temple.

Thank you for your service!
Get started today at
familysearch.org/indexing
How many of you have heard of FamilySearch indexing?
How many of you have indexed in the past?
[discussion]

Thank you for indexing! You probably know it is a good thing, but today you are going to learn more about why indexing is so vitally important to our Heavenly Father’s work “to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life” of His children.
In a letter dated February 29, 2012, The First Presidency said, “Members are encouraged to participate in FamilySearch indexing which is vital to family history and temple work” (emphasis added).

Why do you think they said this? [discussion]

This is the question we are going to answer today!
Family history is drastically different than it used to be. In the past, dedicated family historians have spent years and precious savings to find records of their ancestors so they could take their names to the temple. Now it is possible to find and prepare the names of your ancestors in minutes from the comfort of your own home.
Anyone, including you, can now experience the joy of finding and learning about your ancestors’ lives easier, faster, and more often than ever before! This experience brings the Spirit of Elijah into your life, which will lead you to love your family more (both past and present) and will strengthen your desire to provide temple ordinances for your ancestors.
Truly the Lord is hastening the work of salvation for his children on both sides of the veil!

Today more information is available than ever before, and literally millions of additional online records are added to FamilySearch.org each week! What used to take years and much travel and expense can now be discovered in seconds from home. Now nearly anyone can find more information about their ancestors, and it is getting better every day.
As a result...
More people are participating in family history work, which means more of them are having heart-turning experiences (see Malachi 4:5-6).
More ancestors are being remembered, and people are developing more love for their ancestors.
More names are being submitted to the temples, and more ordinances are being performed than ever before.
Slide 6
More people are receiving “both halves of the blessing” of temple service, mentioned by Elder Richard G. Scott (http://www.lds.org/general-conference/2012/10/the-joy-of-redeeming-the-dead?lang=eng).
Slide 7
What has changed to hasten the work in this way? The answer, in part, is FamilySearch indexing. This marvelous gift from the Lord has been given in our day to bless His children.

So what is indexing?
Indexing is how long-forgotten information about our ancestors goes from old hand-written books to searchable online records that Church members can discover and take to the temple. It starts with the names of our ancestors and information about the events of their lives found in old documents, such as birth, marriage, and death records. These records are digitally photographed, then made available over the Internet to volunteers who type (index) the information. This information is then saved to a searchable database (FamilySearch.org) and is published online to the world.
Since 2006 when FamilySearch indexing was first introduced, more than one billion records (representing some three billion names of individuals) have been indexed by volunteers! That number may be surprising and impressive, but what volunteers are really doing when they index is helping Heavenly Father’s children to be remembered and blessed.

I’d like to show you a video that illustrates this point.
You can watch the embedded video, or you can click on the link above to download the video onto your computer.

Download Video:
http://broadcast2.lds.org/familysearch/indexing-is-vital-animated-video/2013-03-01-familysearch-indexing-is-vital-720p-eng.mp4?download=true
How did this video make you feel?
Why do you think it make you feel that way?
How many of you have found information about an ancestor?
How did you find them? (If you found them online in a searchable record, it was because that record was indexed.)
How did you feel when you found that ancestor? (This is the feeling you make possible for others when you choose to index.)
Because of indexing, people around the world are having heart-turning experiences every day. Indexing energizes family history research, helping to generate a “spark” of interest that can turn into a life-long love of ancestors and, for Church members, a life of devotion to the saving work performed in the temple.
But in the process, indexing blesses your life as well. How? As you read and type the names of the people in the records, your thoughts will begin to turn to your own ancestors. You will experience a growing desire to know more about them and to provide the temple work they may need in order to progress. Through indexing, you will feel the Spirit of Elijah guiding you to your own ancestral discoveries, and ultimately to the temple, where you can bless your ancestors waiting on the other side of the veil.

This feeling is inspired by our Heavenly Father, who wants our families, more than anything, to be part of His eternal family.
By now you should be asking how you can get involved in FamilySearch indexing!

Anyone age 13 and older is invited to be an indexer. Indexing can be done at home or anywhere Internet access is available. You can index anytime, day, or night, whenever you have some spare time. You do not need prior family history or indexing experience to get started or to make a difference. Start or stop whenever you want. Your work is automatically saved. Help is available in the program, online, and from your local indexing leaders.
But seriously, remember that this is Heavenly Father’s work, and every name you index represents one more chance that someone will find his or her missing ancestor and take the ancestor’s name to the temple to receive the ordinances of salvation.

To get started, go to https://familysearch.org/indexing.