

# Opening The Heavens - A Live Panel Discussion With Young Adults From Around The World

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## *Scott and Angelle Anderson*



Bringing family history to life is a pursuit about which Scott and Angelle Anderson are passionate. They volunteer for the free site, "The Family History Guide," and love to help make everyone's family history journey easier, more efficient, and more enjoyable. Scott has a PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy, and is a retired Institute of Religion teacher. Angelle puts both her degree in Elementary Education and her Family History Certification to good use daily, and has definitely earned the nickname of "Grandma Camera." Scott and Angelle are parents to seven children, grandparents to 34 grandchildren, and have six great grandchildren - all of whom they hope will be recipients of the promised blessings of their own and their

family's involvement in temple and family history work. The Andersons co-host "Gathering," a weekly series for "Hi Five Live " on Facebook, and often present at various conferences and events on family, gospel, family history, and related topics. Currently, Scott serves as a ward Elders Quorum counselor over temple and family history, and Angelle serves as a ward temple and family history consultant.

## **RootsTech 2023** **Class Description**

Young adults from around the world share their inspiring stories of accepting President Nelson's invitation to be involved in the gathering of Israel on both sides of the veil, and how they have been blessed for doing so.

## **Questions**

1. How did you become involved in family history? What is doing this work like in your part of the world?
2. How has making meaningful family connections to the past strengthened you in dealing with present conditions in your lives?
3. In what ways can your talents and capacity be harnessed to help with the efforts of the church in discovering, gathering and connecting with both the past and present?

4. What are some of the distractions or mindsets that prevent young adults from taking the time and effort to focus on the gathering? What advice do you have for helping other young adults overcome these? How can you support each other?
5. What resources and tools have been helpful in discovering and documenting the legacy of your families? What resources and tools do you want to learn more about?
6. There are many beautiful promises for being involved in missionary, temple and family history work. How have these promises influenced your lives?

“Heavenly Father has sent His children to earth for more than six millennia. Most of these people have not yet received the ordinances that would qualify them for eternal life. That is why temples are so significant. That is why the gathering of Israel on both sides of the veil is the most important cause on earth today. You, my dear colleagues in this holy work, have an essential role in this gathering, and I thank you for it.

I plead with you to take charge of your testimony. Work for it. Own it. Care for it. Nurture it so that it will grow. Feed it truth. Don't pollute it with the false philosophies of unbelieving men and women and then wonder why your testimony is waning.

Engage in daily, earnest, humble prayer. Nourish yourself in the words of ancient and modern prophets. Ask the Lord to teach you how to hear Him better. Spend more time in the temple and in family history work.

As you make your testimony your highest priority, watch for miracles to happen in your life.” President Russell M. Nelson [Choices for Eternity](#) (Fireside For Young Adults May 2022)

“It is my testimony that when we show the Lord we are serious about helping our ancestors, the heavens will open and we will receive all that we need.” Wendy Nelson, [Open the Heavens through Temple and Family History Work](#)

“...I have a particular emphasis on the young adults of the church. You are leaders. You can take the lead in the gathering of Israel on both sides of the veil. You have been brought to the earth for such a time as this...You will influence the lives of more people than you can ever imagine.” David A. Bednar, [Our Quest for Connection Wrap-Up](#)

“Anytime we do anything that helps anyone — on either side of the veil — to make and keep their covenants with God, we are helping to gather Israel.” President Russell M. Nelson [Let God Prevail](#)

“My dear young brothers and sisters, these surely *are* the latter days, and the Lord is hastening His work to gather Israel. That gathering is the most important thing taking

place on earth today. Nothing else compares in magnitude, nothing else compares in importance, nothing else compares in majesty. And if you choose to, if you want to, you can be a big part of it. You can be a big part of something big, something grand, something majestic!

When we speak of the *gathering*, we are simply saying this fundamental truth: every one of our Heavenly Father's children, on both sides of the veil, deserves to hear the message of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. They decide for themselves if they want to know more...

Just think of the excitement and urgency of it all: every prophet commencing with Adam has seen our day. And every prophet has talked about *our* day, when Israel would be gathered and the world would be prepared for the Second Coming of the Savior. Think of it! Of all the people who have ever lived on planet earth, we are the ones who get to participate in this final, great gathering event. How exciting is that!

My dear extraordinary youth, you were sent to earth at this precise time, the most crucial time in the history of the world, to help gather Israel. There is *nothing* happening on this earth right now that is more important than that. There is *nothing* of greater consequence. Absolutely *nothing*.

This gathering should mean *everything* to you. This *is* the mission for which you were sent to earth. President Russell M. Nelson [Worldwide Devotional June 2018](#)

## **Resources**

[Stand as True Millennials](#)

[Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - Young Adults](#)

[Young Adults Share Their Experiences](#)

[Family History for the Rising Generation](#)

[12 Facts about the Gathering of Israel](#)

[Rising Generation Europe](#)

[Worldwide Devotional June 2018](#)

[Let God Prevail](#)

[Our Quest for Connection \(ten challenges\) • RootsTech](#)

[Our Quest for Connection Wrap-Up](#)

[Open the Heavens through Temple and Family History Work](#)

[Choices for Eternity](#)

[We Each Have a Story](#)

[The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn](#)

[Family History and Temple Work: Sealing and Healing](#)

[The Promised Blessings of Temple and Family History Work](#)

[The Promised Blessings of Temple and Family History Work 2](#)

[The Family History Guide](#)

[Family Activities: 5-Minute Ideas for Latter-day Saints](#)

[Individuals Activities: For Latter-day Saints](#)

[Family Activities: For Latter-day Saints](#)

[Youth Home | Youth: Latter-day Saints](#)

[Weekly Family History Activities - A Come, Follow Me Companion](#)

[YA Weekly](#)

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