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Harvesting Story: Nurturing a Storytelling Family – Teresa Clark

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Overview

In this hands-on, get-you-talking, session participants will learn to cultivate, create, and share enticing bite-sized family story nuggets.

Goals

Participants at this workshop will:

- Recognize the power of story to share their family history
- Identify their potential harvest and learn ways to make it happen
- Learn how to make family storytelling manageable and doable - NOW

Requirements

This is an interactive experience! Come prepared to chat with your neighbor and conjure up some memories. Nurturing a storytelling family begins by nurturing the storyteller in you.

1. Listen to your partner; you'll want them to listen to you!
2. Don't buy into the lie that you have no memories.
3. Listen for the memory triggers that other's stories provide for you.
4. Ask all the questions you want.
5. Be ready for some action!

Evaluation

If you enjoy my class, please take a moment to fill out class evaluation on the RootsTech App. I get brownie points for good evaluations!!!

Let's Get Started!

Join me as we take a step back from the citations, sources, dates, and deeds.

We're going to focus on the power of storytelling to strengthen, protect, and inspire your family. We're going to learn how to transition your family into a storytelling family.

Materials

Participants should bring a buddy or find one before the start of class. A smartphone is nice, but not required. You may want to download Instagram and/or StoryCorp apps before you come. Come ready to hear and tell some stories and be ready to capture a cascade of memories.

Milestones

Birth

Most people start their story here. Historically, it's a very good place to start. However, leading with dates rarely captures interest or entices others to listen.

Events

I was there when... This is a great way to hook some listeners!

People

The first time I saw them I...
Now, we're talking!

Places

I remember standing there, looking out across the way, I had never... I bet you want to know more, don't you?

Things

I played with this when I was a little boy. It's probably different from the toys you have. Would you like to see it and touch it?

Nurturing

Do the eyes of others glaze over when you start talking about research?

What are the stories you most desperately want your family to know and remember?

Do you know WHY you want them to know those stories?

What can you do to make family history come alive for your family?

How can you lift the dusty words off the pages and create pictures that linger in the hearts and minds of the people you share your stories with?

It doesn't matter if your stories end with a "happily ever after." Real stories rarely end that way. However, as you identify what you yearn for and discover more and more of your stories you will discover more and more about yourself.

How can embedding family history fact within a story make it more memorable and exciting?

What benefit is to be found from your family knowing the stories of the people they come from?

What are the necessary parts of a tell-able tale that will breathe life and color into the stories I tell my family?

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What are some tricks I can use to successfully nurture the recollection of story in my family?

What are some tricks I can use to recall the stories I want to share?

Write your Memory Trigger THINGS here:

Write your Memory Trigger PEOPLE here:

Write your Memory Trigger EVENTS here:

Write your Memory Trigger PLACES here:

Write your Memory Trigger TROUBLES here:

You've got what it takes! Get started nurturing your storytelling family today. Remember: Story breeds story!