

JUNIOR SAINTS

ACTIVITY PLAN

AGES 7–11

GENEALOGY

SPIRITUAL CORE

Version 2026.1



Your Family Tree

Draw your family tree. Share one story. Copy a name from long ago.

🕒 60 minutes · one session

🎯 WALK AWAY WITH

- Has drawn a three-generation family tree on paper with the names he knows.
- Has shared one short family story with the group.
- Has copied a name carefully from an old handwritten card.
- Has one empty box to ask a parent about at home.

📦 BRING / SET UP

- A blank sheet of paper and a pencil for each Junior Saint
- Crayons or markers for the family-tree drawings
- Five or six handwritten name cards in old-style handwriting (leader prepares ahead)
- A note sent home a few days before, asking each parent to give the youth one short family story to bring
- A clear table or floor space to draw on, plus room to stand in a circle

FOR THE LEADER

This is a Junior Saints preview of the **Genealogy** badge. No advancement credit is earned here — the goal is to introduce these concepts to Junior Saints alongside the older Saints Global youth working the full BRC. The 4-session Saints Global arc lives under *Activity Plan (SG)* in the BRC builder.

YOUR FAMILY TREE (PAGE 1 OF 2)

THE HOUR

BLOCK 1 · DISCUSSION **Opener — Welcome circle**

⌚ 5 min

Stand in a circle. Each Junior Saint says his name. Then he says one grandparent's first name — or a great-grandparent if he knows one. Examples: Grandma Jean, Grandpa Tom, Great-Grandma Rose. The leader goes last. Keep each turn short.

BLOCK 2 · CREATIVE **Draw your family tree**

⌚ 15 min

1. Sit at the table with paper and a pencil. The leader draws a sample tree on the board first.
2. Put a small box in the middle of the page. Write your own name in it.
3. Draw two boxes above your name. One for your mom, one for your dad. Write their names.
4. Above each parent, draw two more boxes. Those are grandparents. Write the names you know.
5. Beside your own box, draw one box for each brother or sister. Write their names.
6. If you do not know a name, leave the box blank. You can ask at home later.
7. Teaching point: a family tree shows where you come from. The empty boxes show where to look next.

BLOCK 3 · DISCUSSION **Share one family story**

⌚ 10 min

1. Sit in a circle. Each Junior Saint says one short story a parent gave him to bring.
2. Stories can be funny, sad, or just true. Examples: how grandpa came to this country, how mom and dad met, what great-grandma did for work.
3. Keep each turn to about one minute. The leader goes last.
4. After each story, the group says one thing they liked about it.
5. Teaching point: every family has stories. The stories live longer when we tell them out loud.

BLOCK 4 · SKILL PRACTICE **Copy an old name**

⌚ 15 min

1. The leader holds up one handwritten name card. The handwriting is old and curly.
2. Pair up. Each pair gets one card. Look at it together for one minute.
3. Each youth copies the name from the card onto his paper. Try to match the spelling exactly.
4. If a letter is hard to read, the pair talks it out. Then the leader checks.
5. Switch cards with another pair. Try a second name.
6. Teaching point: grown-up researchers do this every day. Copying old names carefully is part of finding family.

YOUR FAMILY TREE (PAGE 2 OF 2)

THE HOUR — CONTINUED

BLOCK 5 · PHYSICAL **Stand in your generation**

⌚ 10 min

1. Stand at one end of the room. The leader marks three lines on the floor with tape or cones.
2. Line 1 is for you. Line 2 is for parents. Line 3 is for grandparents. Line 4 is for great-grandparents.
3. The leader calls one line at a time. When your line is called, walk to it.
4. Stand on line 1. Then take a big step back to line 2 — say one parent's name out loud.
5. Take another step back to line 3 — say one grandparent's name out loud.
6. Last step to line 4. Say a great-grandparent's name if you know one. Or just say "I will ask at home."

BLOCK 6 · REFLECTION **Close — Cheer and homework**

⌚ 5 min

1. Stand in a circle. Stretch your arms and back. Hold each for 10 seconds.
2. Drink water.
3. Each Junior Saint says: 'My family story is ____.' Just one short part of his story.
4. Group cheer: 'Find the names!' Three times.
5. Homework: show your family tree to a parent or guardian. Ask them to fill in one empty box.

AT THE CLOSE · DEBRIEF

1. How many grandparents' names did you fit on your family tree?
2. Whose family story did you remember best from the circle?
3. Which old name was hardest to copy from the card?

☑ *This is a Junior Saints preview session. No Genealogy BRC requirements are earned here — the goal is to introduce the concepts the older Saints will work on.*

HANDOUT 1 OF 1

FROM SESSION — DRAW YOUR FAMILY TREE

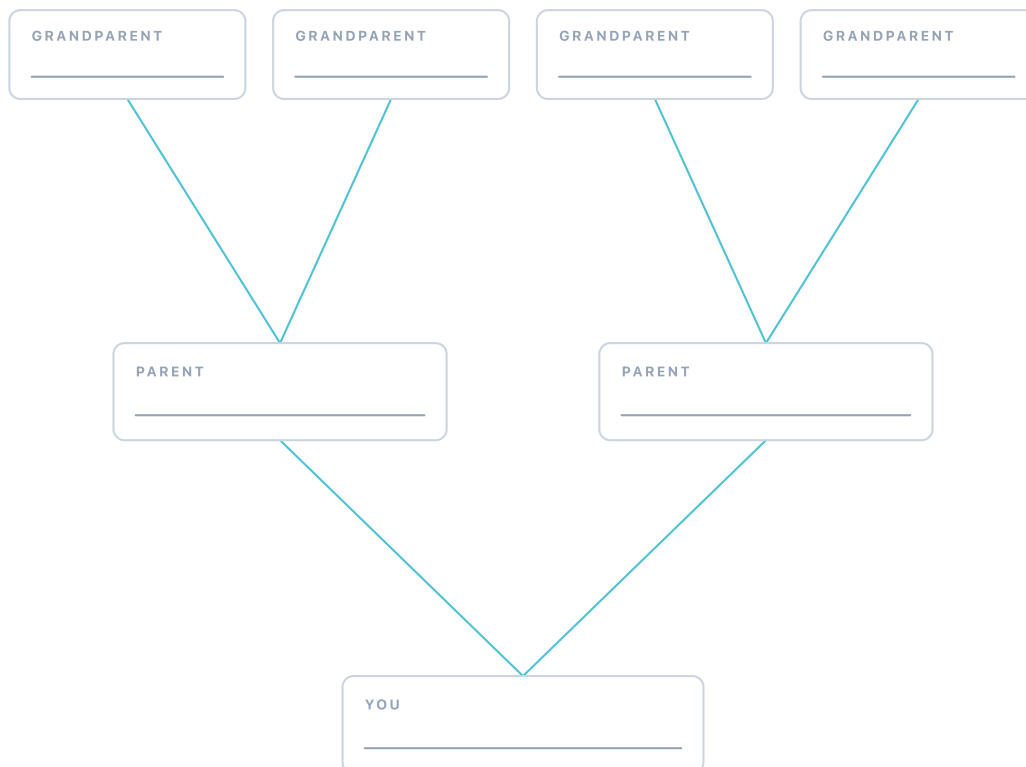
Your Family Tree

Print so each Junior Saint can fill in names with a parent.

GENEALOGY · JUNIOR SAINTS CARD

Fill in your family tree.

Write a name in each box. Ask a parent for help.



Ask a parent to help you fill the empty boxes.

Print this handout for in-person reference during the session.