

EVOLVE LEVEL 6, Unit Quiz 7A

- Daniel** On today's podcast we have Kaitlyn Adams – a professional genealogist. First question, Kaitlyn – why do people need to hire a professional? Can't people just build their family trees themselves for free? Especially since now so much information is available online.
- Kaitlyn** Yes, many people are surprised I do this full time. But researching ancestors can be a time-consuming process, and some documents are difficult to track down, especially those more than a century old.
- Daniel** So how did you get into genealogy?
- Kaitlyn** Unsurprisingly, I started with my own family. When I was 14, I was at an uncle's wedding, curious as to how all the people were related. I started drawing a family tree on a piece of paper. Other guests saw what I was doing and helped me to add more names. Suddenly, there was this huge crowd of people around me! I don't know what the bride must have thought! But after the wedding, I input all the information into a computer and later, at future family reunions, I was able to fill in any gaps.
- Daniel** What made you turn it into a career?
- Kaitlyn** Well, I had many friends and colleagues interested in me helping them with research into their own families. It was a pleasure until I started running out of time. When I explained I was getting overwhelmed, they offered to pay me! That was when I knew I could make a living from genealogy.
- Daniel** Now you work for a company. How did that happen?
- Kaitlyn** Being good at research, it wasn't difficult for me to track down companies offering similar services! I realized that I lacked experience and started attending conferences and seminars. I didn't even know these things existed before. Gradually, I made contacts with key people in the industry and the rest is history!