



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 4: You Will Find

Suggested Week of Use: December 25, 2022

Core Passage: Luke 2:1-15

News Story Summary

Maxine White, 45, lives in England and is a professional Christmas decorator. Her company creates, sets up, and removes Christmas displays for businesses and high-end homes. A basic home Christmas decoration—including a decorated tree, decorations, garlands, and lights—starts with a price tag of \$1,800. Her company uses commercial-grade lighting, which is much brighter than people can buy at the store. She meets with clients to determine what they want, where they want it, and when they want it set up and taken down. Some clients will add personal ornaments or decorations of their own. Maxine says it takes about two hours to decorate a standard 8-foot tree using at least 360 decorations and the lights. She says, “When I’m decorating for a family, I decorate the base of the tree myself, and then I let the children put on some more sentimental decorations with their parents.” Her company is busy year-round. Starting mid-January, they are planning and getting contracts for the next holiday season. Maxine said, “I became a full-time professional Christmas decorator about five years ago. I was turning forty, and I decided it was important to find a career that I genuinely wanted to do.”

For more about this story, search “Maxine White, Professional Christmas Decorating.”

Focus Attention

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, ask: *What are some of the things you typically do to decorate for Christmas? What childhood traditions are you still doing today with your family?* Point out that all of us have different traditions around decorating for Christmas. Share the information about custom Christmas decorator Maxine White and discuss reactions. Note that many people put a lot of thought, time, and expense into decorating their homes for Christmas, yet Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a feeding trough. Ask: *How have you noticed the significance of Christmas—the birth of the promised Messiah who came to save the world—getting lost in the midst of decorations, celebrations, and holiday festivities?* Encourage adults to hold on to that idea as they work through today’s session about the Christmas story.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, refer back to the story about Maxine White and the main point of this session. Ask: *In what ways can believers use Christmas as a way to share Jesus as the promised Messiah who came to save the world? What are some things you are currently doing to point people in the right direction? How can simple Christmas decorations point to God’s plan for salvation for all?* Challenge adults to look for ways to point others toward Christ during this season.