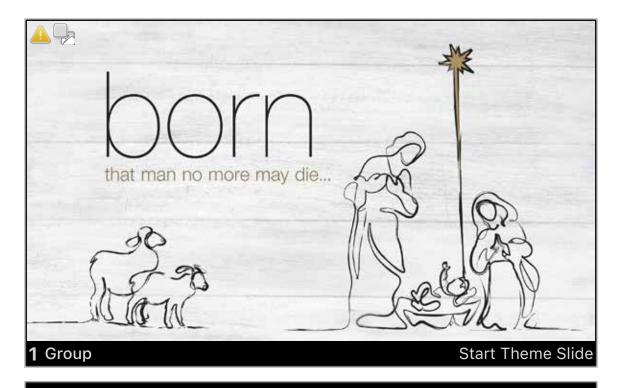
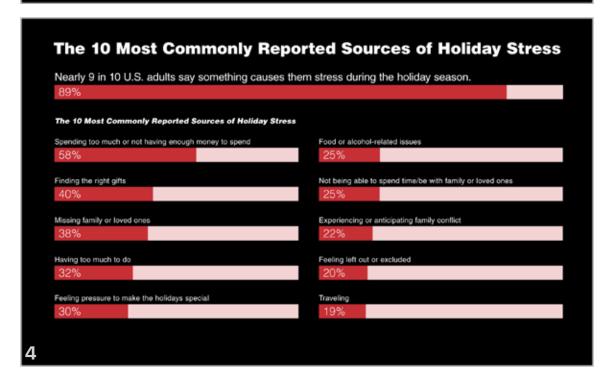
## 12-15-2024 Message



Holidays are about joy, but they can also increase our stress.

2 Group

According to the American Psychological Association research done last year, (2023) 89% of U.S. adults report feeling stressed during the holiday season.



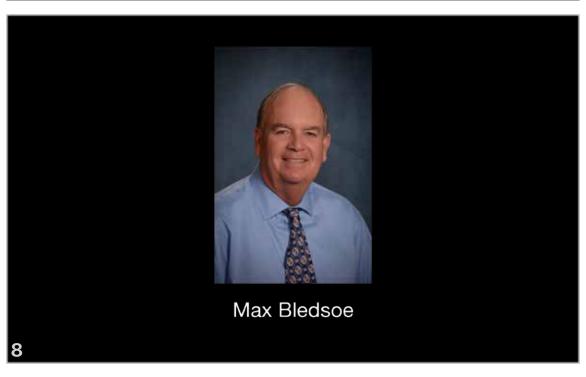
# Loss can cause stress and sadness during the holidays.

5



Chad Selph





Jesus' coming can bring hope and comfort to those of us experiencing loss.

9

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

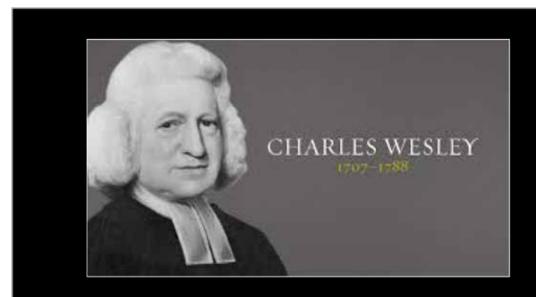
10

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

**11** John 1:1-5 (ESV)



<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

<sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. Luke 2:8-11 (NIV)

13

Luke 2:8-11 (NIV) 1 of 2

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:8-11 (NIV)

"Christ by highest heaven adored—Christ the everlasting Lord!

Late in time behold Him come—Offspring of a Virgin's womb

Mild He lays His glory by —**Born that man no more may die** 

Born to raise the sons of earth—Born to give them second birth."

15

Why was Jesus born? He was "born that man no more may die."

## Four Points to Consider:

1. The reality of death

#### **17** Group

<sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

<sup>23</sup>But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

1 Corinthians 15:22-23 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

<sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.

<sup>19</sup>If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1 Corinthians 15:17-21 (NIV)

19

1 Corinthians 15:17-21 (NIV) 1 of 2

<sup>20</sup>But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>21</sup>For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

1 Corinthians 15:17-21 (NIV)

20

1 Corinthians 15:17-21 (NIV) Last of 2

<sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

<sup>23</sup>But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup>Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

1 Corinthians 15:22-26 (NIV)

21

1 Corinthians 15:22-26 (NIV) 1 of 2

<sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

<sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:22-26 (NIV)

22

1 Corinthians 15:22-26 (NIV) Last of 2

<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10 (NIV)

**23** John 10:10 (NIV)

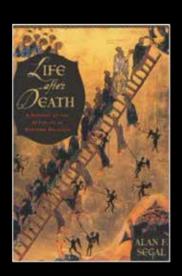
# Four Points to Consider:

7 The nature of life

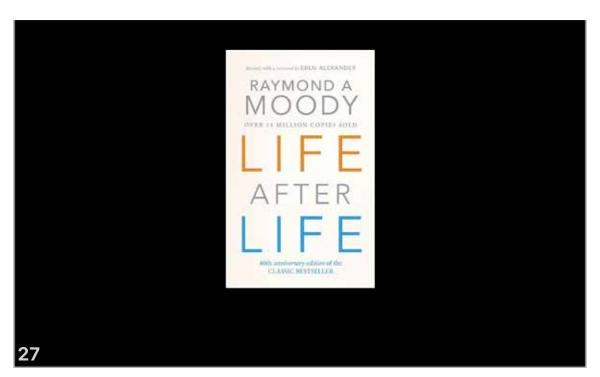
"...He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

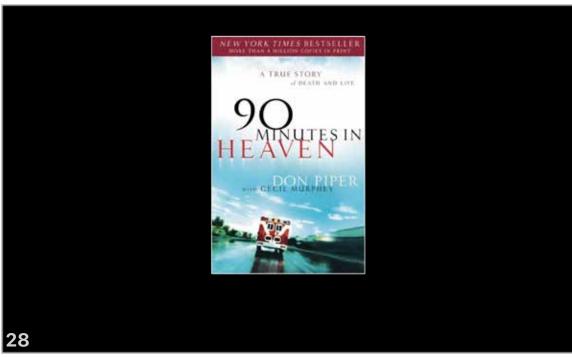
Ecclesiastes 3:11b (NIV)

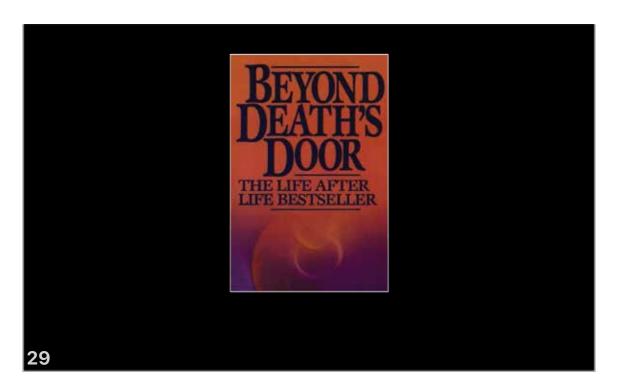
25 Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NIV)

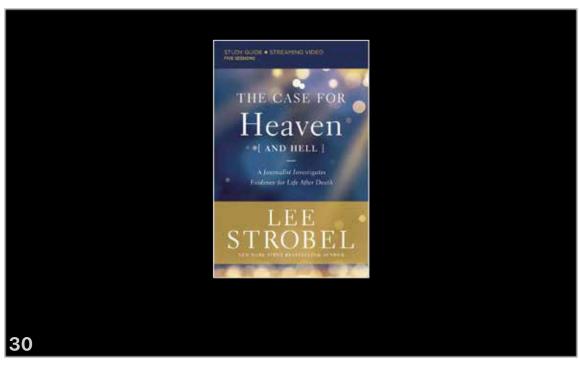


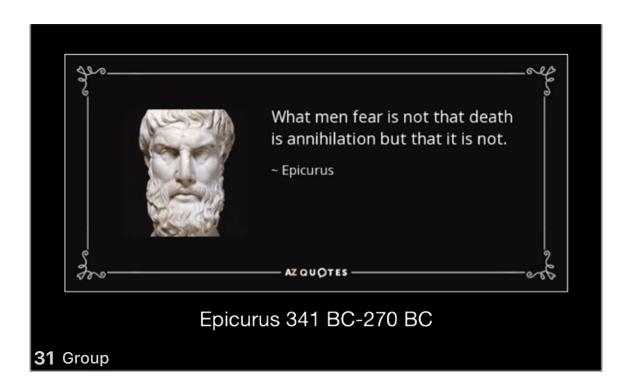
26 Group











<sup>28</sup>Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 10:28 (NIV)

32

Matthew 10:28 (NIV)

<sup>55</sup>"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup>The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

<sup>57</sup>But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 (NIV)

33

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;

<sup>26</sup>and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

34

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

# Four Points to Consider:

The purpose of Jesus' coming

35 Group

Jesus came to make a way for us to know God and be reconciled to him.

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

<sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Galatians 4:4-5 (NIV)

**37** 

Galatians 4:4-5 (NIV)

<sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45 (NIV)

38

Mark 10:45 (NIV)



<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

40

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

### Four Points to Consider:

The hope that Jesus brings

41

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

<sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. Luke 2:8-14 (NIV) I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:8-14 (NIV)

43

Luke 2:8-14 (NIV) 2 of 3

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:8-14 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10 (NIV)

**45** John 10:10 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;

<sup>26</sup>and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

46

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

