



Session 4: The Promised One
Suggested Week of Use: December 24, 2017
Core Passages: Luke 2:25-38

News Story Summary

Prince Harry and actress Meghan Markle recently confirmed they are engaged to be married. In their first public appearance since announcing their engagement, both shared of their meeting and love for each other. The couple is set to tie the knot next spring, between March and May. The exact date will be set to avoid clashing with other royal events such as the birth of Will and Kate's third baby due in April, the Commonwealth Games also in April, and Trooping the Colour for the Queen's birthday parade in June. However, before they marry, Markle must be baptized and confirmed in the Church of England.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "Prince Harry wedding confirmed.")

Focus Attention

To supplement the Deliberate instruction under Focus Attention, read the news story summary. Ask: *What elements of a marriage engagement make it a promise? Compare the promise of this royal marriage to the promise made to Simeon.* Explain that there are conditions that must be met before Prince Harry and Meghan's engagement promise can be fulfilled. Challenge the group to look for the promise made to Simeon and conditions included in the promise.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the news article. Explain that many people are looking forward to the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. Ask: *How does a marriage engagement create anticipation? How did the promise made to Simeon create anticipation? How did the promises of the Old Testament create anticipation for Anna? Besides the gift of salvation, to what can we look forward because of Jesus' birth?* Challenge group members to make it a point this Christmas to celebrate the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus' birth and the hope of our salvation.