



Christmas Starts with a Tree

(Matthew 1:1-17)

How Do You Start Christmas? No. 1

Matthew 1:1-2 (NIV)

**A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ
the son of David,
the son of Abraham:**

**² Abraham was the father of Isaac,
Isaac the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of Judah
and his brothers,**

Matthew 1:16 (NIV)

**and Jacob the father of Joseph,
the husband of Mary,
of whom was born Jesus,
who is called Christ.**

Christmas Starts with a Tree

First Ornament:

Symmetry

Second Ornament:

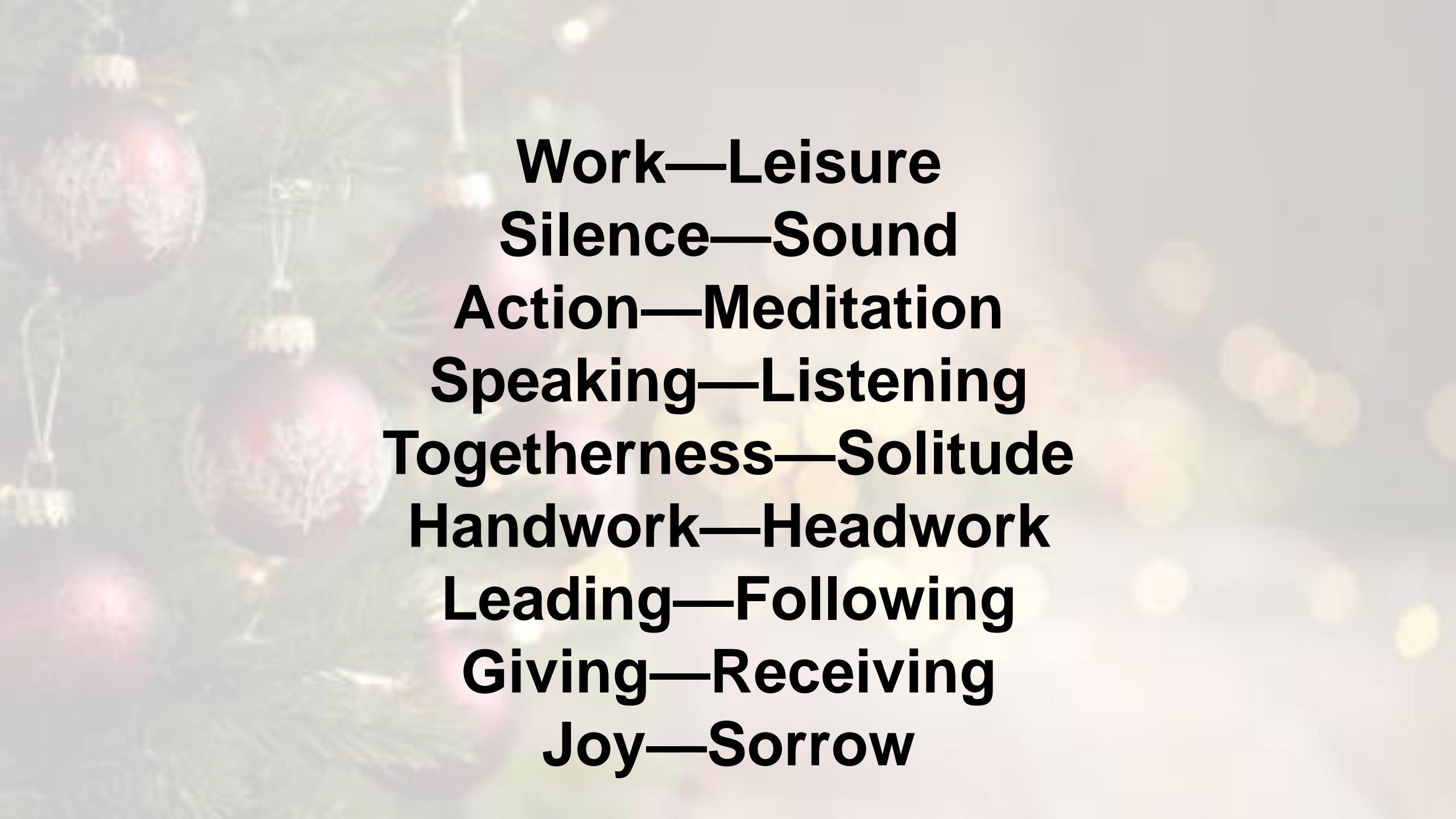
Third Ornament:

Symmetry: Three Evenly Divided Sections

1:1-6a—Abraham to David 14 Names

1:6b-11—David to Exile 14 Names

1:12-16—Exile to Jesus 14 Names



Work—Leisure
Silence—Sound
Action—Meditation
Speaking—Listening
Togetherness—Solitude
Handwork—Headwork
Leading—Following
Giving—Receiving
Joy—Sorrow

Matthew 1:3 (NIV)

**Judah the father of Perez and Zerah,
whose mother was Tamar,
Perez the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,**

Matthew 1:5 (NIV)

**Salmon the father of Boaz,
whose mother was Rahab,
Boaz the father of Obed,
whose mother was Ruth,
Obed the father of Jesse,**

Matthew 1:6 (NIV)

**and Jesse the father of King David.
David was the father of Solomon,
whose mother
had been Uriah's wife [Bathsheba],**

Matthew 1:16 (NIV)

**and Jacob the father of Joseph,
the husband of **Mary**,
of whom was born Jesus,
who is called Christ.**

Matthew 1:16 (NIV)

and Jacob the father of Joseph,
the husband of **Mary**,
of whom [*feminine relative pronoun*]
was born Jesus,
who is called Christ.

Christmas Starts with a Tree

First Ornament:

Symmetry

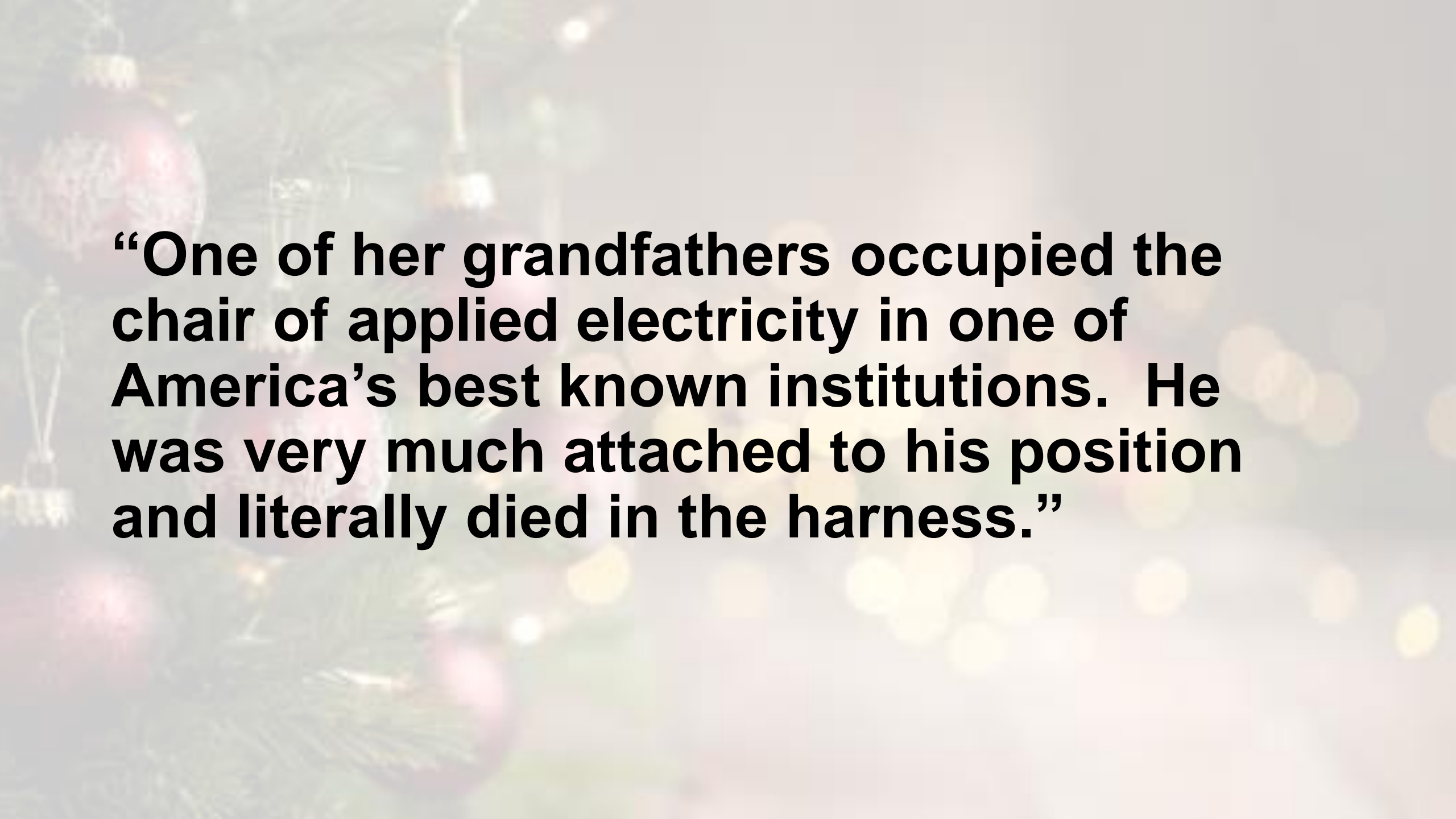
Second Ornament:

Universality

Third Ornament:

A Christmas tree with red and gold ornaments and warm white lights.

1:3—Tamar (Canaanite)
1:5—Rahab (Canaanite)
1:5—Ruth (Moabite)
1:6—Bathsheba (Hittite)



“One of her grandfathers occupied the chair of applied electricity in one of America’s best known institutions. He was very much attached to his position and literally died in the harness.”

Christmas Starts with a Tree

First Ornament:


Symmetry

Second Ornament:

Universality

Third Ornament:

Grace

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- **Tamar** (1:3; Genesis 38)
 - **Rahab** (1:5; Joshua 2; 6:17, 22, 25; Hebrews 11:31)
 - **Ruth** (1:5; Ruth 1-4)
 - **Bathsheba** (1:6; 2 Samuel 11:2-5)

Christmas Starts with a Tree

First Ornament:

Symmetry

Second Ornament:

Universality

Third Ornament:

Grace

Romans 3:23–24 (NIV)

**for all have sinned
and fall short of the glory of God,
²⁴and are justified freely by his grace
through the redemption
that came by Christ Jesus.**