

Making Memories  
Home for the Holidays: Part 4  
December 18, 2016  
Pastor Gordon

**What makes a great tradition?**

Traditions that bring back **GOOD FEELINGS**

*"We have happy memories of the godly."  
(Proverbs 10:7, NLT)*

*"But the spiritual nature produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (Galatians 5:22–23, GW)*

Traditions that cause us to **PAUSE** and **REFLECT**

*"We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the LORD's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever." (Joshua 4:6–7, NLT)*

Traditions that reinforce our **VALUES** and **COMMITMENTS**

*"Jesus took some bread in his hands and gave thanks for it. He broke the bread and handed it to his apostles. Then he said, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Eat this as a way of remembering me!'" (Luke 22:19, CEV)*

Traditions that will **OUTLIVE US**

*"I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached in all the world, what this woman has done will be told, and people will remember her." (Mark 14:9, NCV)*

Traditions that **GIVE HOPE**

*"[Mordecai] told them to celebrate these days with feasting and gladness and by giving gifts of food to each other and presents to the poor. This would commemorate a time when the Jews gained relief from their enemies, when their sorrow was turned into gladness and their mourning into joy. ... the Jews throughout the realm agreed to inaugurate this tradition and to pass it on to their descendants and to all who became Jews. They declared they would never fail to celebrate these two prescribed days at the appointed time each year." (Esther 9:22–27, NLT)*

**ACTIONS:**  
**INVITE to Candlelight Services**

