

THE *Big 3*

EPISODE: 143

TITLE: How Your Holiday Traditions Can Shape Your Life

What will be the “aroma and taste” that others experience when they are spending time with your family—during the holidays and throughout the *rest* of the year? Will it be a foretaste of Heaven and the Kingdom? Remember, that is why Jesus came—so that we would know our Father!

Here are three key things to believe and consider when planning your holidays:

Head... heart... hands...

1. **The traditions you participate in can be borrowed or made up on your own**, but you have the ability to infuse them with great meaning that carries a code for life throughout the year. What and who do you love as a family? How will you treat others? What will be the “aroma and taste” that others experience when they are spending time with your family? Will it be a foretaste of Heaven and the Kingdom?
2. **Your traditions can be a blast AND they can be a little picture of the Gospel**. Be as generous as God is generous with you. Embrace the different people that are harder to love. Treat people like family—not like guests. Make everyone feel like they are welcome and have a place and role to play.
3. As a couple, or as a family this year, **discuss which of your traditions you love the most and why?** How could you include more people (especially those without close family) to join you and receive a blessing along with you? How could your traditions be more filled with grace, and fun and a picture of what God is like? That is why Jesus came—so that we would know our Father!

Creaking new traditions or changing some “not so great” patterns around the holidays can be hard. But these special times each year are truly low-hanging fruit relationally. So many people will be alone during the holidays. Your family, and your table can be an open invitation to the Kingdom of God!

Thanks for listening...we'll see you in the next episode!

Caesar & Heath

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