

They help us share a common bond and make awesome memories – Traditions.

Yes, they are meaningful. Some are silly, wacky, rowdy, (come by our house on New Year's Eve and see), but all of them are downright awesomely memorable. Tonight, we do it all over again and celebrate one of those awesome ones – Nochebuena. We'll have *el puerco*, *la yuca con mojo*, *los turrones*, etc. etc. and, of course, the family (this year minus our baby girl who has to do big girl stuff and be at work. But a few hours later we'll all sit around our Christmas tree, open gifts, eat leftovers, drink some more, and watch our kids' highly creative annual family video production (the likes of which JJ Abrams, Spielberg, and Lucas can't hold a candle to. Yeah, that good). So, my family and friends, for traditions, today and always I am thankful.

I wish all of you a fun and safe Nochebuena and the merriest of Christmas. As you sit by your tree, remember that your blessings outnumber its lights. And remember that the spirit of our lost loved ones shine ever bright. May the peace, love, and grace of our Lord be with you always.

"I realized that tradition is priceless, whether you have a small family, a large family, or no family. Tradition doesn't have to be logical; it only has to emphasize the light of Christ and his everlasting love."
-L. Copeland



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