

the  Venues
Go Deep
Don't Mess with My Traditions
O Christmas Tree
12.8.19

When it comes to putting up the Christmas tree, are you a fan of real or artificial?

How do you feel about the fact that the tradition of putting evergreens in homes predates Jesus' birth?

Does the fact that the practice was part of other faiths bother you? Why or why not?

We talked Sunday about "hanging the green" symbolizes the following:

1. Going from finite to infinite.

What is the significance of the name "evergreen" as compared to other trees?

Read Hosea 14:8. *How is God like an evergreen?*

Read 1 John 4:8 and 1 Corinthians 13:13.

What do these two passages tell us about the things that last? (The word "last" means to continue, endure, remain).

How does 1 Corinthians 13:13 shape our priorities, our system of values?

2. Going from despair to hope. The evergreen brought a sense of light and warmth into a season of darkness and cold.

What is your "evergreen" for those times of despair, sadness, darkness, cold?

3. Going from victim to victor. No matter how cold the temperature, the evergreen stays green.

How do you stay positive in a negative world?

Read these lyrics to "O Christmas Tree." Contemplate on how the evergreen is a metaphor for God. For love.
How can the characteristic of the evergreen be yours?

*O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy leaves are so unchanging.
Not only green when summer's here
But also when it's cold and drear.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy leaves are so unchanging.*