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**Religious Perspectives - Buddhism**

**Does it offend you when someone wishes you a “Merry Christmas”?**

“In terms of being told Merry Christmas, if it’s just, you know everything is context. That’s a little of a trick question. Someone here in America during the Christmas season today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century tells me Merry Christmas, I’m not going to get offended obviously. And, in fact we do celebrate Christmas but as a very secular holiday and maybe as a, for me Christianity obviously is not literally true but it is a beautiful myth.

That was also a big part of, a certain part of my life so we have the tree we do it. But, when you talk or if we go back to DEOMI, be aware of what context and what your Merry Christmas carries. Because, we all know, you’ve been here for several weeks now, that you can put a lot of message in one word or one look. So, you know, don’t be pushy. There are very different ways to say Merry Christmas and there are very different things one can mean saying, Merry Christmas.”

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