The Believer’s Guide to Hanukkah
How to Bring the Light of Yeshua into Your Home during the Holidays.
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Hanukkah is known as the Festival of Lights or Festival of Dedication. It’s a season of joyous celebration, light, love, and revelation.

Jesus (Yeshua in Hebrew) not only celebrated the Festival of Lights, He also identified Himself with Hanukkah as the One who brings light.

“Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon’s porch.” —John 10:22-23

“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” —John 9:5

This revelation of who Yeshua is and how He observed this festival inspires us as Believers to seek His face during this season of miracles and joy.
Hanukkah | Part of Your Heritage

The Hanukkah story begins around 165 B.C. during the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, a ruler of the Hellenistic Syrian kingdom who outlawed any worship other than to the Greek gods and goddesses.

The Maccabean family—Mattathias (a Jewish priest) and his five sons—and others who shared their passion for the Lord, formed a small army that would:

- Defeat Antiochus
- Save the Jewish people
- Restore the Temple

Antiochus IV decreed that any practice of Jewish customs were strictly forbidden. However, the Maccabees refused to worship the Greek gods. This refusal to conform to the culture angered Antiochus. He set up idols and unclean sacrifices inside the Jewish Temple, completely desecrating it.
The Maccabees had no other choice but to fight. If they had not stood up for the righteousness of God, they would have been consumed by the enemy. Through this trial, God revealed His power and authority.

They overcame and then set out to reestablish their Temple. They cleansed it of all idolatry and consecrated it—dedicating it again to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

This is Your Heritage!

This legacy of overcoming is part of your heritage. These historical events are more than a story. They are elements that are woven into the fabric of your family history as a child of God. The same Spirit who empowered the Maccabees also rose Yeshua from the grave and lives inside of you!
Hanukkah | A Family Legacy of Miracles

As the Maccabees rededicated the Temple, they realized that the menorah had only enough oil for one day. However, the God of miracles operated through the principle of multiplication. The candle that was only supposed to burn for one night burned bright for eight full days.

This was enough time for new oil to be consecrated for Temple use. This miracle inspired the Jewish people to proclaim and remember the eight-day festival annually, which became known as Hanukkah.

He multiplied the oil so that His plan of restoration was fulfilled!

This is Your Legacy of Miracles!

The same God who worked miracles and supplied what was needed for the Maccabees to accomplish their assignment is the same God who works miracles in your life. He is our unchanging God, who has no end (see Ps. 102:27). He anoints us with oil and restores us continuously.
Hanukkah | A Lesson of Spiritual Awakening

Hanukkah was birthed out of the Jewish Temple’s rededication that had been overcome with false gods and idols. Those who celebrated the rededication rejoiced in the fact that the Temple had been restored to its previous state—cleansed and sanctified for God’s purposes.

The blood of Yeshua has cleansed us once and for all. However, through trials, we can often lose sight of the triumphant victory that is already ours.

Hanukkah is a time of awakening and dedication. Activate this awakening and dedication by asking God to reveal any idolatry in your heart and to cleanse it from you.

Then seek to restore what once was, just as the Maccabees did. They didn’t just cleanse the Temple; they followed the cleansing with its rededication to the Lord.

This is Your Spiritual Awakening!

Lighting the candles during Hanukkah is a physical representation of this spiritual awakening. Take time with your family each day to come before the Lord and ask His Spirit to reveal iniquitous structures that have held you back. Trust that He will provide what you need to overcome.
Hanukkah | Bring the Light of Yeshua into Your Home

Many Believers today are seeking a more biblically sound way to observe the holiday season. The secular world has turned this season into one of greed and overindulgence. However, when we remember that God has always been in the business of miracles, we see the connection between the birth of Yeshua and the rededication of the Temple.

Jesus, being the light of the world, wants us to remember His Spirit as the oil of anointing (see Acts 10:38) that continues to burn within us—equipping us with power to do miracles and wonders in His name.

This Light is in You!

The light of God is in you. He will not put it under a basket (see Mt. 5:15). He desires to see it burn bright. Allow it to light your home this holiday season.

“Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.”
—Matthew 5:15
How to Light the Hanukkiah (8-branched Hanukkah menorah):

1. **Start by lighting the Shamash (Servant in Hebrew) candle.** On the first night, light the Shamash, and use it to light the first candle placed, which is in the far-right holder. The center or highest-positioned candle represents our Servant and Savior, Yeshua. This candle will always sit higher than the other 8 candles of the Hanukkah, as Yeshua is seated above all creation.

2. **Each night add another candle to the Hanukkiah from RIGHT to LEFT.** Think of this placement similar to how Hebrew is written, from right to left. By the eighth night, the Hanukkiah should be filled and burning bright candles.

3. **Each night light the Shamash candle, then light the other candles from LEFT to RIGHT.** Think of lighting the current night first, working your way right.

4. **Decree and declare the light!** On each night of Hanukkah you will light the candles as follows...
On the first night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, and then one candle in the far-right holder. Light the Shamash candle using a lighter.

Use the Shamash candle to light the first candle. Remember to always use the Shamash candle to light the other candles in the Hanukkah.

The Shamash candle represents Yeshua.

When lighting the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, we decree and declare that You have called, chosen, saved, and blessed us to be one with You. Thank You, Father, for Your abounding love that restores us to You through Christ.”

After the candles are lit, you can say the following blessing in Hebrew, followed in English together as a family...

- Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

- English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
The Second Night of Hanukkah

On the second night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place a candle in the far-right holder and one more to the left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the Shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The second candle represents the covenant that is made between you and the Father.

When you light the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

• “Father God, thank You that You have made us one with You. Thank You for securing our covenant with You through the blood of Christ. Continue to sanctify our body and our soul and let our spirit be one with You.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

• Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

• English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
The Third Night of Hanukkah

On the third night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place three candles in the Hanukkiah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The third candle represents the Trinity.

When you light the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, thank You for the unity of the Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We thank You for the power of the three-stranded cord and the covenant with You—that the cord is not easily broken and we can overcome.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

- Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

- English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
The Fourth Night of Hanukkah

On the fourth night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place four candles in the Hanukkiah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the Shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The fourth candle represents an open door of opportunity.

When you light the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

• “Father God, reveal to us the open door You want us to walk through. Thank You for the opportunity, and we will say yes to walking through, in wholeness and in Jesus’ name, through the doors You have opened.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

• Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

• English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
On the fifth night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place five candles in the Hanukkiah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the Shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The fifth candle represents God’s grace and favor.

When lighting the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, let us have Your grace, favor, power, and authority to walk in Your light for Your glory. Shine Your face on us and show us Your favor. Let us embrace the truth that Your grace, through Jesus, freely justifies us.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

- Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

- English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
The Sixth Night of Hanukkah

On the sixth night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place six candles in the Hanukkiah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The sixth candle represents the nature of man, which is carnal and weak. However, the Lord gave us His supernatural power, allowing us to walk by the Spirit rather than the flesh.

When lighting the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, thank You for giving us supernatural power to overcome the nature of man in every aspect. You’ve made us supernatural agents from Heaven to Earth, and we ask that You let the light shine over all our weaknesses so that You may receive the glory.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

- Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

- English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
On the seventh night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place seven candles in the Hanukkah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the shamash candle using a lighter. Use the shamash candle to light the newest candle first and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkah).

The seventh candle represents the perfection of Yeshua, our Messiah.

When lighting the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, You are perfect and complete. Thank You for the perfection of Jesus in us. Let the light and the completion that was done on the cross shine through us.”

After the candles are lit, you can repeat the Hebrew blessing, followed in English together as a family...

- Hebrew: “Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, asher kid’shanu b’mitzvotav v’tsivanu l’hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.”

- English: “Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.”
The Eighth Night of Hanukkah

On the eighth night, place the Shamash candle, located in the middle or highest-positioned holder, then place eight candles in the Hanukkiah, starting on the far-right and working your way left.

Light the Shamash candle using a lighter. Use the Shamash candle to light the newest candle first, and work your way out (opposite of how you placed them in the Hanukkiah).

The eighth candle represents new beginnings.

When lighting the candles, you can say a blessing such as...

- “Father God, we decree and declare this is a year of new beginnings. Let the resurrection power shine through us as we enter this next season. Renew and revive our souls with a fresh, new anointing that will accomplish Your will for Your Kingdom.”
7 Keys to Making Hanukkah Filled with Joy...

1. **Keep in mind, the above directions for lighting the Hanukkiah are a roadmap for you to follow.** It is not intended to be a heavy burden or legalistic. It is a way to embrace the roots of your faith, while also allowing the Spirit to guide you and your family during this special celebration, remembering the light of Yeshua.

2. **Reflect and meditate on what the numbered candles represent.** Allow the Spirit to give you words to bless the Lord and remember His goodness.

3. **Keep the candles lit or burn them out, according to the time you have.** Many have asked how long to leave the candles lit. It depends on your family's situation. Some leave them lit for 15 minutes, while others choose a couple of hours.

4. **Enjoy spending time with your family after lighting the Hanukkiah.** You could share a meal, spend time in prayer and worship, read the Word, or play a game. The point is to create an atmosphere of remembering the Lord's provision in every area of life.

5. **Go ahead and get a Hanukkiah for your home.** Click [HERE](#) to choose your Hanukkiah!

6. **Use the Hanukkiah to tell others of the Father's love and provision.** The Hanukkiah is a beautiful way to share the light of Yeshua with others in ways they likely have never known.

7. **Remember, God is still in the business of working miracles today!** This is really what Hanukkah is about; understanding that the Lord who provided for the Maccabees, equipped them to overcome oppression and is still at work within each of us today.
Let us praise the God of miracles, the One who lights our paths, this Hanukkah season!