

Hanukkah Candle Lighting



What you need

One Hanukkiah (8 branched menorah, plus one holder for the shamash [servant] candle, positioned higher than the others), 44 candles that fit the Hanukkiah, matches, Bible.

How to Light the Hanukkiah

The first night, place a candle in the holder furthest to the right. Place a second candle in the shamash holder. Recite the blessings and light the shamash, then use the shamash to light the other candle. Return the shamash to its holder. The second night, place two candles in the holders furthest to the right, along with a candle in the shamash holder. Recite the blessings and light the shamash, then use the shamash to light the other candles from left to right, returning it to its holder. Continue in this manner adding an additional candle each night. Traditionally, the Hanukiah is lit anytime after sundown, except on Shabbat, when it is lit before sundown. If placed in a window, the candles should appear from right to left.

First Blessing:

Baruch atah ADONAI Eloheinu Melech ha-olam
asher kid-shanu b'tverot u'vishmo anakhnu m'adlikim ha nayrot shel Hanukkah. (Amen)

Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the Universe
Who sanctified us with His commandments and in whose name we kindle the Hanukkah
light. (Amen)

After the first candle of the day is lit say: These candles we kindle for the miracles, for
the wonder, for the salvations, and for the battles which You performed.

Second Blessing:

Baruch atah ADONAI Eloheinu Melech ha-olam
sh'asah nisim l'avoteinu bayamim hahem bazman hazeh. (Amen)

Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the Universe
Who performed miracles for our ancestors in olden times and in our times. (Amen)

Third Blessing: (only on the first day)

Baruch atah ADONAI Eloheinu Melech ha-olam
shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu, v'higianu, lazman hazeh. (Amen)

Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the Universe
Who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season. (Amen)

Suggested Scripture reading, discussion, and prayer for each candle lighting

Each night: read (memorize, if you can!) John 1:1-5, 8:12, and Matthew 5:14-16.

First Candle: Isaiah 51:1-4; Proverbs 6:23; Matthew 25:1-4; Proverbs 13:9; Lamentation 2:9; Proverbs 29:18

What is the importance of understanding scripture? What is the light of Messiah? Pray that Adonai would shine His light into any darkness in your life.

Second Candle: Psa 119:1-24

How does living out the truths of scripture make us light to the world? Pray that Adonai would fulfill Psalm 119:18 in your life.

Third Candle: Psa 119:25-48

How does keeping Adonai's law cause us to walk in liberty? Pray that Adonai would fill your life with true freedom in His light.

Fourth Candle: Psa 119:49-72

Where is true value found? What does verse 53 say about this? Pray that you would rightly value Adonai's Word over any other source.

Fifth Candle: Psa 119:73-96

How does this speak of the faithfulness of Adonai? How long will He be faithful? Pray that Adonai's word would be firmly rooted in your heart.

Sixth Candle: Psa 119:97-120

How does Adonai's word illuminate your path? From what does it protect you? Pray that you would taste the sweetness of Adonai's word and set it continually before you.

Seventh Candle: Psa 119:121-144

Why do you want to serve Adonai? What is the key to serving? Pray that your servanthood would be based on His truths alone.

Eighth Candle: Psa 119:145-176

What benefit comes to those who love God's law (165)? Pray that you would be full of light, and bring the light of Yeshua to the darkness of this world wherever He leads!