

Glowing and Growing From the Light of the Menorah

Goals:

- 1) To help each person experience Chanukah in a new and meaningful, and lasting way, so that our connection to HKBH is different as a result of the Yom Tov.
- 2) To provide guidelines, suggestions, and exercises that will provide real access to the holiness, meaning, and impact of Chanukah
- 3) To interpret the practices of Chanukah in such a way that we know what we are trying to accomplish.

Topics we will cover in the six parts:

Preparation for Chanukah

Erev Chanukah

Shabbos and Chanukah

Meaning of Chanukah

How to perform Hallel and Hoda'a

The Jewish Home and Chanukah

Ben Adam L'Chavero

Exercises and Suggestions for Chanukah preparation

Get your menorah out early- polish it, fill it with oil, get your candles, wicks ready (for Motzei Shabbos, too!)

Place it in its Shabbos place

Make an Erev Shabbos/Chanukah schedule; speak it out with your family (incentives for those who are ready)

Spend 10 minutes Thursday, 10 minutes Friday on the sugya in Maseches Shabbos (21b) about Chanukah

Prepare dvar Torah for Friday night (with children as well)

Study Torah for ONE MINUTE after lighting the Menorah

Learn with the full awareness that Torah is Divine Wisdom.

“The most important intention to have when lighting the Chanukah candles is to bring the Heavenly Divine Light down to this world during these days. This is why the Lighting of the candles, not their placement, is the Mitzvah: The only way the light can last beyond its physical existence is if it was lit through an intentional Mitzvah.” (Pri Eitz Chaim [R' Chaim Vital], Sha'ar Chanukah 109)