

Lighting

The **חַנּוּכָּיָה** Chanukiyah

(“Chanukiyah” is the technical name for a Chanukah Menorah.
A “Menorah” is a generic candelabra.)

How do we Light Candles? Up or Down? Why?

Focus Text: Talmud Shabbat 21b

בית שמאי אומרים: יום ראשון מדליק שמונה מכאן ואילך פוחת והולך

The School of Shammai says: On the first day you light 8 candles and then one less for each day thereafter.

ובית הלל אומרים: יום ראשון מדליק אחת מכאן ואילך מוסיף והולך

The School of Hillel says: On the first day we light 1 and then you keep on adding a candle for each day thereafter.

וטעמא דבית הלל - דמעלין בקדש ואין מורידין.

Hillel's reasoning: In matters of holiness we increase and do not decrease.

We light the candles with aspirations
that we will bring more light, more holiness, into our world.

The lesson is simple:

Be like a menorah - - Bring more light into the world!

In Song:

Fountainheads, “Light Up The Night”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzh-TKzXN2k&list=PL2788ACD07F9B1C71&index=5>

VALUES

Questions:
Rabbi Ron Symons
412-339-5395
rsymons@jccpgh.org

JCC
PGH





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Place the candles in the חַנּוּכְיָהּ Chanukiyah from right to left
and light them from left to right... and then recite:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav, vitzivanu lhadlik ner shel Chanukah.

Blessed are You, *Adonai* our God, Ruler of worlds, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to kindle the Hanukah lights.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, sheh asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamin ha'hem bazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, *Adonai* our God, Ruler of worlds, who did wonders for our ancestors in their day at this time of year.

On the first night add:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, shehechyanu, v'kiyimanu v'higiyanu lazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, *Adonai* our God, Ruler of worlds, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to celebrate this joyous time.

Try This!

Each night of Hanukah, while the candles are burning, recite this traditional sentence, filling in the end with a different creative addition from each person present:

הַנִּירוֹת הַלָּלוּ אֶנְחָנוּ מִדְּלִיקָה עַל הַנְּסִים וְעַל הַנִּפְלְאוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת
וְעַל הַמַּלְחָמוֹת, שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְלְאַמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה...

We light these candles for the miracles, the wonders, the acts of redemption and the battles that You performed for our ancestors in their day at this season...

"We light these candles in order to inspire us to..."

DIY JEWISH

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