Living as a "Spiritual" Menorah in an increasingly dark world

1. By *Living* our **lives** according to the **Word of God**

Your word is a <u>lamp</u> to my <u>feet</u> and a <u>light</u> to my <u>path</u>...

The unfolding of <u>vour words</u> gives <u>light</u>; it gives <u>understanding</u> to the simple.

(Psalm 119:105, 130)

For the **commandment** is a **lamp** and the **teaching is <u>light</u>**; and **reproofs for discipline** are the **way of** *life*... (Proverbs 6:23)

So we have the **prophetic word** made more sure, to which you do **well** to **pay attention** as to **a lamp** shining in a **dark place**,.. (II Peter 1:19)

2. By *Living* lives that are characterized by <u>Righteousness</u>

But the **path** of **the righteous** is like the **light of dawn**, that **shines brighter and brighter** until the **full day**. (Proverbs 4:18)

...for you formerly were darkness, but now you are <u>light</u> in the Lord; walk as children of <u>Light</u> (for the *fruit* of the Light consists in all goodness and <u>righteousness</u> and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

(Ephesians 5:8-10)

3. By Walking, not in darkness, but in the "light" of Truth

This is the **message** we heard from **Him** and announce to **you**, that **God** *is* **Light**, and **in Him** there is *no* **darkness** at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

If we say that we have <u>no sin</u>, we are **deceiving ourselves** and **the <u>truth</u> is** *not* **in us.**

If we *confess* our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to *cleanse* us from <u>all unrighteousness</u>. (I John 1:5-9)

4. By *Living* lives characterized by <u>Contentment</u> (*not* contention)

Do all things without **grumbling** or **disputing**; so that you will prove yourselves to be **blameless** and **innocent**, **children of God** in the midst of a *crooked* and *perverse* **generation**, among who <u>you</u> appear as <u>lights</u> in the world,...

(Philippians 2:14-15)

5. By *Living* lives that are characterized by <u>Good works</u>

You are the <u>light</u> of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;...

Let <u>your light</u> shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and *glorify* your Father in heaven.

(Matthew 5:14, 16)

6. By *Living* as "sons of day," with <u>Alertness</u> and <u>Soberiety</u>

...for **you** are all **sons of <u>light</u>** and **sons of <u>day</u>**. **We** are <u>not</u> of the <u>night</u> nor of <u>darkness;</u>

So then let us **not** *sleep* as others do, but let **us** be <u>alert and sober</u>..

But since we are of *the* <u>day</u>, let us be <u>sober</u>, having put on the *breastplate* of **faith and love**, and as a *helmet*, the **hope of salvation**. (I Thessalonians 5:5-6, 8)

7. By *Walking* in <u>Love</u> towards one another

The **one** who says **he is in the <u>Light</u>** and *yet* <u>hates</u> **his brother** is **in the** *darkness* until **now**.

The one who <u>loves</u> his brother *abides* in the <u>Light</u> and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

(I John 2:9-10)

8. By *Letting* our lives reflect the <u>Life</u> of Jesus the Messiah, who came as a **Light** to the world

"In Him (Jesus) was <u>life</u>, and the <u>life</u> was the <u>Light of men</u>."

(John 1:4)

Then **Jesus** again spoke to them, saying, "**I am the <u>Light</u>** of the **world**; he who **follows Me** will **not** walk in the **darkness**, but will have the <u>Light of life</u>." (John 8:12)

And the city (**New Jerusalem**) has **no need** of the **sun** or the **moon** to **shine** on it, for the **glory of God** has *illumined it*, and <u>its lamp</u> *is* <u>the Lamb</u>. (Revelation 21:23)

Happy Chanukah