Chanukah Study Questions

1. Who were the Maccabees? What role did they play in the redemption of the Jewish people from their oppressors?
2. How does this ancient conflict relate to the current one in the Middle East today?
3. Why is Chanukah called the Festival of Miracles?
4. Describe the underlying spiritual battle between Judaism and Hellenism. How does this relate to the Christian Church today?
5. Why did some of the Jewish people choose martyrdom rather than eat foods that God has forbidden in His Word? Did Peter’s vision contradict the Word of God? Discuss.
6. How do Jewish people generally view Christianity and why are they so opposed to evangelizing?
7. How did Christianity become so estranged from its Jewish roots? What have been the consequences of this ‘divorce’ between Judaism and Christianity?
8. What are some popular myths that are believed as truth in mainstream Christianity? What are the biblical truths that expose these lies?
9. What are some of the ways in which the Christian Church has become ‘hellenized’?
10. Why is December 25th likely not the birthday of Yeshua the Messiah? Why does it matter? Do we have spiritual liberty to choose our own days of worship? Discuss.
11. What is the origin of Christmas and the Christmas tree? Do you believe that this festival and these customs have been redeemed from paganism (or not)? Discuss.
12. What is the meaning of the ‘shamash’ and how does this relate to Yeshua?
13. Why is Chanukah called the Festival of Lights? Where is the Light of the World seen in the Tanach (Old Testament)? New Testament?
14. How are we to let our lights shine brightly in the darkness of this world? What hinders or dims the brightness of our light?
15. Why is Chanukah called the Feast of Dedication? What is the meaning of Chanukah?
16. How does the Maccabean cleansing of the Holy Temple from defilement and re-dedication to Adonai relate to us as New Covenant believers? Are you at a point in your life when you would like to re-dedicate your life to the Lord?
17. What is the significance of the ‘Abomination that causes desolation’?
18. What is the mystery of the 75 days?
19. What are some Chanukah customs (traditional foods, games, songs, etc)?
20. How would you and your family like to celebrate Chanukah? What spiritual truths could you reflect upon during each of the eight nights of Chanukah as you light the candles?