

**Rebbetzen's Corner**



**"Dedication & Commitment"**

The word "Chanukah" comes from the Hebrew root word "Cha' nach" — which translates "dedicate." The literal translation for Chanukah, then, is "dedication," and it harkens back to the dedication or "re-dedication" of the Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple was reconsecrated (or dedicated) on the 25th day of Kislev in the year 165 B.C.E. It has since been destroyed; so why do we as Jews still celebrate this holiday? Well, it's a time for us to commemorate the victory of the Maccabees over the armies of Syria and the win-

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ning of our right to be different. But I feel that it's the perfect opportunity for us to raise that celebration to a higher plane. Instead of dwelling on the revolt of the Maccabees and the bloodshed and violence, we have chosen to focus on our cleaning and dedication of the Temple, and our dedication to worshipping as Jews and following G-d's Law.

As Jews today, we can create our own meaning and purpose in life, beginning with a "re-dedication" at Chanukah time. "Re-dedication to what?" you might ask. To the Temple? To G-d? To

**Happy Chanukah**

our families? To ourselves? To Whom or What??? Well, I cannot tell you how to enhance your life. I can only tell you that it is possible. I can give you guidelines, and even examples, but ultimately you are the one who must examine your own life and decide how you can make it better.

We all have an area in our lives where "things could be better," but for one reason or another we have not chosen to "risk" taking a look at those areas that "need work." I for one know that I will never be 109 pounds again, and I certainly know

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