Havdalah literally means “separation.” The Havdalah service marks the end of Shabbat and should begin when three stars are visible in the sky.

During the Havdalah service, we smell the fragrant spices to help us prolong the sweetness of Shabbat. We look at the flames of the braided Havdalah, candle which symbolizes the separation of light from darkness. We bless a cup of wine to mark the departure of Shabbat, just as we marked the beginning of Shabbat.

The Havdalah Ceremony
1. Light the Havdalah candle
2. Raise the cup of wine and recite the following blessing:

While the kiddush cup is lifted, we say:

Baruch Atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, borei p’ri hagafen.

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

...for families just like yours!
3. Lift the spice box and recite the following blessing:
(Pass the spice box around so that everyone can smell the spices)

Next, lift up the B’samim -- spice box, saying:

*Baruch Atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, Borei minei v’samim.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe,
who creates so many different fragrances.

4. Hold the Havdalah candle up high and recite the following blessing while everyone cups and rotates their hands (so their fingernails catch the reflection of the flames). This action symbolizes the separateness between dark and light, the holy from the mundane, and Shabbat from the rest of the week.

Then hold up the candle and say:

*Baruch Atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha’olam, Borei m’orei ha’eish.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe,
who creates the fiery lights.

Shavua tov, may you have a good week, 
May you find the happiness you seek.
Shavua tov, may your week be fine
May it be as sweet as the Sabbath wine.

...for families just like yours!