

Unit 6 Lesson 4 **God gave us a holy purpose to change the world**

Heartprint: God Made Us to Do Holy Things

Memory Verse: Micah 6:8

February 28, 2021

Link to video large group: <https://youtu.be/h7FonMegoD8>

Song: God Made Me Wonderful

https://youtu.be/roOQJg_XKtc

Activity: Build a Wall

Items Needed:

- Blocks/legos
- Bean bags

Instructions: Remind your children about the story and how Nehemiah had each worker protected by a guard as they worked. Tell them that they are going to play a game relating to this part of the story. Divide your children up into two teams. Pick two people from the opposing team to be the enemy. Have the building team pick one person to be the guard. The guard should sit on the opposite side of the table in front of the wall that is being built to protect it from the enemies. Have the building team build a wall as high as they can in 30 seconds while the "two enemies" try to knock down the wall or slow the building using small bean bags or other soft balls. The "enemies" can only throw the bean bags at the wall, not the builders. Also mark a place on the floor where the enemies must stand at all times. The team that builds the highest wall after 30 seconds wins.

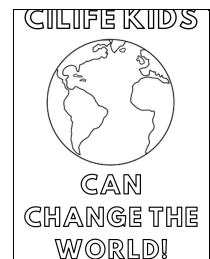
Connection Point: God gave Nehemiah a passion and a love for Jerusalem. Nehemiah relied on God so that he would be successful in building the wall. If we listen to God, He will give us a passion and a purpose to further His Kingdom. When we trust and follow Him, He will make us successful.

Craft: Change the World Coloring Page

Items Needed:

- Change the World coloring page
- Crayons/Markers

Instructions: Distribute a coloring page to each child and allow them to color their picture. When they are finished coloring, assist them in gluing or taping two coins onto the paper near where the coins are on the paper.



Connection Point: Nehemiah had a big job to do, he was to build a wall to protect Jerusalem. God had a plan and Nehemiah was part of that plan. Like Nehemiah, God has a plan for you! He can give us wisdom to know what He calls us to do. With God, we can change the world!

Bible Lesson:

Items Needed:

- Crown
- Grape juice
- Goblet/Wine glass

Memory Verse: “Do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

https://youtu.be/uiU5Q_Izrxs

This week’s story is taken from Nehemiah:

Have you ever met a king or worked for a king? I haven't! Kings wear a crown like the one I am wearing (paper crown if we don't have a dress up crown). Kings sit in a big fancy chair and they live in a big fancy kingdom.

Today in our story, a man named Nehemiah worked for a king. He was a cupbearer. Can you say cupbearer? The cupbearer would pour the drink for the king, that was his job. (Pour grape juice into a goblet or wine glass) Nehemiah was a hard worker and the king trusted him very much.

One day Nehemiah came in with a very sad face. Let me see your very sad face. Good job! This was not normal for Nehemiah, for he was always happy. The king said “What is wrong with you Nehemiah, are you sick?” Nehemiah told the king that he had just found out that the town Jerusalem where his family was from, had been attacked and the wall around it was broken and the gates burned. Nehemiah was so sad to find this out. Jerusalem needed their wall so they would be safe!

What do you do when you are sad? Do you go to your parents when you are sad, and tell them what is wrong? Nehemiah did that very thing. But he went to His Father in heaven about what made him sad. God had given Nehemiah a love for Jerusalem. God had a plan and Nehemiah was part of that plan. Nehemiah was going to have a new job for a new king! God’s kingdom is in heaven and He is ruler of heaven and earth. He is bigger and stronger than any king on earth. Nehemiah served the king on earth, but he also served a bigger king, the God of heaven and earth.

Because Nehemiah was sad, the king asked what he could do to help him and Nehemiah was ready for this question. He gave the king a list of things he needed. He needed time off from work, he needed lots of lumber and supplies; he needed approval from the king to do the work, and he needed to be able to travel safely. The king wanted to help Nehemiah so he gave him all those things plus extra people to go with Nehemiah to keep him safe.

Nehemiah then traveled to Jerusalem by horse. They didn't have cars back then. Let's pretend we are on horses traveling to Jerusalem! Stand up and ride your horse in place! Good job!

Now sit back down so we can hear what Nehemiah found. Nehemiah found that Jerusalem was destroyed! (if we have those cardboard bricks we could have them set up and knock them down at this point in the story) Oh NO! Can you say “Oh NO!”

Some people had broken it all to pieces and burned the gates. Nehemiah was not only going to need wood and tools to repair this wall, he was going to need people! Nehemiah went to the people and told them “The wall is destroyed. We need to repair it. God is going to give us success!” It wasn't a very long speech. But you

know what the people said? They said, “build the wall, build the wall!” So the people went to work and they did a very good job! (you could start picking up the cardboard bricks and start stacking them up at this point)

But outside of Jerusalem there were people who did not want the wall to be built. They laughed and mocked at Nehemiah and all the people who were working so hard! They said, “you can't do it, You can't do it!” Say that with me “You can't do it, you can't do it!” When Nehemiah and the people kept building the wall, those bad people tried to come up with a plan to hurt Nehemiah.

Do you think this made Nehemiah sad or mad or scared? Nope! Nehemiah knew the truth...God was on their side. Nehemiah knew that God could do it! And pretty soon the wall was done!

And as the wall went up those who laughed and mocked and threatened Nehemiah got scared. Let me see your scared face! They were scared because this was a very BIG job and only God could have made this happen so fast.

God gave Nehemiah a passion and a love for Jerusalem. Nehemiah relied on God so that he would be successful in building the wall.

What do you think God will give you a passion for? If we listen to God, He will give us a passion and a purpose to further His Kingdom. That is how we can change the world...when we trust and follow God, He will make us successful to change the world for Him. I love working for our God who is King over heaven and earth because He is all-powerful.

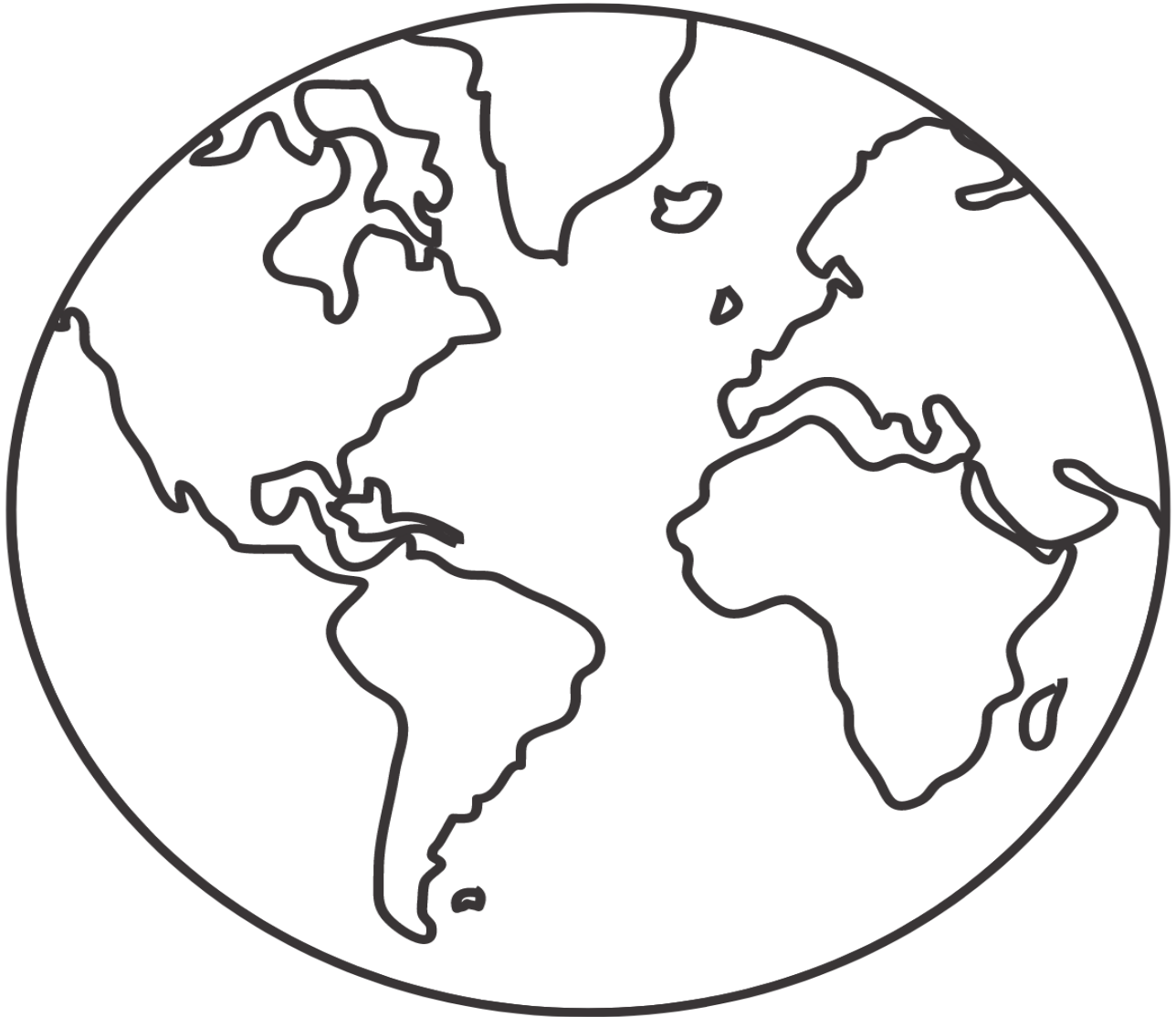
Let's pray:

God, you are King of heaven and earth, you are all-powerful and you are our Father. Thank you for creating us and giving us a passion and a purpose in this life. Give us wisdom to know what you call us to do, the courage to do it and success in it as we change the world for you. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Questions:

1. Nehemiah served the king his drinks, what is this called? (cupbearer)
2. What was around Jerusalem that had been destroyed? (The wall)
3. Did the king say Nehemiah could travel to Jerusalem to build the wall? (Yes)
4. How did Nehemiah get to Jerusalem? (Horseback)
5. Who helped Nehemiah build the wall? (God)

CHANGE
THE



WORLD