

# AN INTERCEDING CUPBEARER

## + SESSION OUTLINE

1. Success in the Lord's mission is based on His lasting promises (Neh. 1:8-11).
2. Success in the Lord's mission is based on His abundant provision (Neh. 2:1-10).
3. Success in the Lord's mission is based on His unstoppable power (Neh. 2:15-20).

Background Passage: Nehemiah 1-7

## + WHAT WILL MY GROUP LEARN?

God empowers His people to fulfill the mission He gives to them.

## + HOW WILL MY GROUP SEE CHRIST?

Nehemiah brought the people together to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem so that the city might be protected from their enemies. But that protection was not permanent. Through Jesus's death and resurrection, God made a way for His people to be protected from the enemies of sin and death without end.

## + HOW SHOULD MY GROUP RESPOND?

Because we are protected and secure in Christ, we join with others to complete the kingdom work God has given us.

# GROUP TIME

NOTES

## INTRODUCTION

**SETTING:** The books of Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther all contain stories of God's people in exile. After generations neglected God and His instructions, the Lord did exactly what He said He would do, replace the blessings of His covenant with curses through exile in Babylon. But after the Persian Empire took control, the possibility of going home became a reality. Yet the heroes of the exile found themselves in a state of flux: Could they be forgiven of their sin? Was God still with them? In each of these books, God's answer is clear: yes. The Lord's covenant was as faithful as ever because God's faithful love endures forever.

**INSTRUCT:** Ask learners to consider the preparation, both physical and mental, that goes into taking a big trip.

**DISCUSS: What are some difficulties of packing for various types of trips?** (for a camping trip, one must consider creature comforts, such as tents, pads, bags, backpacks, and the proper shoes and gear; for international travel, the focus is on currency, passports, and navigating a new and foreign place; with any long trip, the consideration of leaving home behind—with responsibilities for animals, utilities, plants, and more—also adds to the regular packing and preparation)

**TRANSITION:** Nehemiah seemed to be living a pretty great life. The exiled Hebrew had proven himself to be a trustworthy servant to the king of Persia and so lived a life of privilege, likely without a care to his shelter, food, or protection. But as stories often go, one day everything changed. No longer could Nehemiah simply sit in his comfortable life and pretend he didn't know what was going on in the place he longed to call home. The physical and spiritual health of his people was in shambles, so he desired to take a trip home. But beyond making his list and considering how to leave his life behind, he also needed to consider how his request would honor both his God and his king.

# POINT 1

## SUCCESS IN THE LORD'S MISSION IS BASED ON HIS LASTING PROMISES (NEH. 1:8-11).

NOTES

**8** Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, **9** but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' **10** They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. **11** O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." Now I was cupbearer to the king.

**READ:** Ask a volunteer to read aloud **Nehemiah 1:8-11** from his or her Bible.

**EXPLAIN:** Use the **VERSES 8-10** commentary to highlight Nehemiah's prayer for himself and his people (*the bold words fill in blanks in the DDG*):

**ESSENTIAL DOCTRINE #31: Prayer and Providence:** If God is in control and already knows the future, why pray? The Bible teaches that although God has a plan for this world that He promises to fulfill, prayer is often the **means** God uses to accomplish His divine **purpose**. Even though God knows the end result, the means that lead to that end result will be accomplished through prayer. In this sense, it is true that "prayer changes things," and it is also true that God uses prayer to change our **hearts** so that our will comes into **conformity** with His.

**DISCUSS:** How might this doctrine change the way you view prayer? (prayer isn't primarily giving a list of needs and wants to God but a way to bow before the Almighty God of heaven and earth in order to seek His face and know His will; as God changes us in prayer, we are ready to respond in faith)

**EXPLAIN:** Use the **VERSE 11** commentary to emphasize the following idea (*the bold words fill in blanks in the DDG*):

Knowing God's **identity** and promises, we rely on Him to give us **success** in His **plan**, no matter the circumstances.

**DISCUSS:** What parallels do you see between Nehemiah's situation and Esther's situation? (both had personal access to a Persian king; both realized the need for God's intervention; both realized they would need to risk their standing in the palace and perhaps their lives in order to obey God)

**TRANSITION:** Nehemiah's burdens were for his people in Jerusalem. Praying to the Lord, he understood that only with God could there be success and relief.

### VOICES from CHURCH HISTORY

"Let our prayer be that God may advance His work, not for our glory—not for our sake—but for the sake of His beloved Son whom He hath sent."<sup>1</sup>

—D. L. Moody (1837-1899)

## COMMENTARY

**VERSES 8-10** / It was 586 BC when Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians, who in turn fell to the Medo-Persians. But this new political power was actually a benefit to the Jews, for the Persian rulers were much more sympathetic with their Babylonian-captured Jewish exiles and willing to let them return home. Beginning in 538 BC, the Jews were allowed to start going back to their homeland, and not long after that, they began to rebuild the temple. Ezra joined the group in 458 BC, eighty years after the first exiled Jews had returned.

Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem in 445 BC. He and Ezra overlap in the overarching story of the returning Jews, which explains why these two books were combined into one (“Ezra–Nehemiah”) until they were divided in the third century for the Christian Bible. We’re not sure who the author was, but we see this recurring theme: God had not abandoned His people; He had provided the path for them to return to Jerusalem.

But the Israelites hadn’t changed their stripes much in the thousand years since God brought them out of Egypt. Infighting, persecution from outside forces, and disobedience were recurring themes even for the returning captives. On top of that, the approximately one-thousand-mile distance separating Persia and Jerusalem made it difficult to communicate, encourage, and support.

Nehemiah’s brother arrived from Jerusalem with a depressing report: the remnant was “in great trouble and shame” (Neh. 1:3). Upon hearing the walls were broken down and the gates burned, Nehemiah sat down and wept, mourning for a number of days, fasting and praying (1:4). In almost a century since the captives first went back to Jerusalem, all the progress seemed undone. When he finally found the faith and hope to lift his eyes to heaven, Nehemiah prayed to the Lord, leaning heavily on His promises. He identified the Lord as “the great and awesome God who keeps

covenant and steadfast love” (1:5) and confessed the sins the people had committed against this great, faithful, and loving God (1:6-7). We see Nehemiah’s humility in asking the Lord to remember His promise to Moses: If they lived disobediently, He would scatter them. And He did. But if they would return and choose to live obediently, He would bring them back **“to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.”** That place was Jerusalem. Nehemiah knew it was important that God’s people inhabit it. He also focused on God’s people, calling them **“your servants and your people,”** but he couldn’t forget that God Himself redeemed them.

**VERSE 11** / After focusing fully on God’s identity, faithfulness, power, promises, and mercy, Nehemiah next made his pleas: First, that God would be attentive to his prayer and the prayers of all His people, again restating their utter dependence on the Lord. Second, Nehemiah lifted his voice in petition: **“Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.”**

Only after the prayer does the first-time reader realize how heavy Nehemiah’s burden was—he was the king’s cupbearer. The Persian king during Nehemiah’s life was Artaxerxes, son of Xerxes (called Ahasuerus in Esther). As cupbearer, Nehemiah not only would have chosen the king’s drink but also would have tested it to assure him that it was not poisoned. Only a person of the highest trustworthiness and respect would even be considered for such a position.

Nehemiah asked simply for **“mercy”** in the king’s presence. He based his prayer on the promises of the Lord. He confessed the sins of his people and their ancestors, recognizing that only God’s tender mercies brought Nehemiah to a position of influence and access to the king. Only the God of compassion and mercy had power over this situation.



## COMMENTARY

**VERSES 1-4** / Nehemiah's kinsman arrived in chapter 1 with the sobering news about Jerusalem in the month of Chislev (1:1), which corresponds with November/December on our calendar. But the scene we see in chapter 2 doesn't occur until the month of Nisan (2:1), which corresponds with March/April. The chronicler didn't explain the delay of several months between Nehemiah's receiving the news and presenting his concern to King Artaxerxes. Bible scholars have suggested the king may have stayed in Babylon during the winter rather than spending it in Susa, where Nehemiah was stationed. Or Nehemiah may have waited in order to bring his request to the king during a time of feasting, which occurred in the spring.<sup>2</sup>

However, there was another matter of historical significance that may have played into Nehemiah's delay: Artaxerxes himself was the very king who had ordered that the rebuilding of Jerusalem be halted, for the king had heard tell of the Israelite uprisings and rebellions (Ezra 4:17-23). So Nehemiah, being knowledgeable of this not-too-distant history and the formalities of the Persian court, had much to consider in how and what to ask of the king.

But obviously, Nehemiah's inner turmoil was becoming physically manifest, for when the cupbearer brought the wine to Artaxerxes, the king identified his **"sadness of the heart"** immediately. We see here that the hand of the Lord was moving in the Persian king without even a word passing from Nehemiah's lips. What better chance for Nehemiah to present the situation of his people to the most powerful ruler of the land than when the king himself asks about it?

In response to the king's observation, Nehemiah was **"very much afraid."** But he recognized the great and awesome hand of the Lord in his situation and found the courage to describe the problem: the city of his ancestors was in ruins and the gates had been destroyed. The king, with his

heart pricked, invited Nehemiah to present his request. Again, knowing God was in control and relying on His power, Nehemiah prayed before making his request.

**VERSES 5-10** / Nehemiah first asked to be sent to Judah to help rebuild the city **"of my fathers' graves."** Some Bible commentators have observed that Nehemiah intentionally avoided the use of the name "Jerusalem," for that might have brought to mind Artaxerxes's halt on the rebuilding there. But many cultures of that time fixed great importance upon burial places of their ancestors, so this emphasis would have carried weight with the king.<sup>3</sup>

Artaxerxes was agreeable not only to sending Nehemiah but to going without his trusted cupbearer for an extended period of time, likely years. Nehemiah gave the king a definite time frame for his absence, possibly as much as twelve years (Neh. 5:14). Yet **"it pleased the king"** to send him.

Gaining more courage, seeing he found favor with God and with the king, Nehemiah also requested letters of protection during his travel and a letter granting him permission to access the wood in the king's forest to rebuild the gates, walls, and homes. Again, Artaxerxes was agreeable and granted his requests. Nehemiah knew that it wasn't because of the character of the king that his requests were affirmed but because **"the good hand of my God was upon me."**

So Nehemiah went on his way with the favor of God and the Persian king and with a military escort. With the king's permission, he notified the governors, including Sanballat and Tobiah, who were against the Jews and their rebuilding, that he was to have safe passage and be royally supplied in the Jewish rebuilding of their city.

Glory to the Lord when we find favor in His eyes and the eyes of others to give us the provisions and the smooth passageways we need to accomplish His will.

# POINT 3

## SUCCESS IN THE LORD'S MISSION IS BASED ON HIS UNSTOPPABLE POWER (NEH. 2:15-20).

NOTES

**15** Then I went up in the night by the valley and inspected the wall, and I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. **16** And the officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, and I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work. **17** Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision." **18** And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work. **19** But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?" **20** Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem."

**READ:** Ask a volunteer to read aloud **Nehemiah 2:15-20** from his or her Bible.

**EXPLAIN:** Use the **VERSES 15-18** commentary to highlight the following point (the **bold** words fill in blanks in the DDG):

Nehemiah **carefully** obeyed the Lord's instructions. His **encouragement** and story led others to rebuild the wall.

**DISCUSS:** What are some tasks God may call us to for which we might feel **incapable?** (take missionary journeys; make job changes; pursue being a foster family; financially support a cause)

**EXPLAIN:** Use the **VERSES 19-20** commentary to emphasize the following idea (the **bold** words fill in blanks in the DDG):

In the face of **opposition**, we find our holy **position** in God alone.

**DISCUSS:** What are some Scriptures that might help us when we find **ourselves facing opposition?** (Jesus told us we would have suffering in the world but that He has conquered it [John 16:33]; God is with us, strengthening us and holding us [Isa. 41:10]; we need not be anxious but present our requests to God through prayer [Phil. 4:6-7], those who look to the Lord are radiant with joy and their faces are never ashamed [Ps. 34:5])

## COMMENTARY

**VERSES 15-18** / Nehemiah and his caravan made it to Jerusalem, and after three days he decided to inspect the city for himself. In the midst of this description of the different areas of the city, the directions he traveled, and the details of his inspection, we must not miss one detail: God had laid it on Nehemiah's heart to help Jerusalem (Neh. 2:11-14). That passion and focus was the driving force and the inspiration behind everything he did. Intentionally, God had specifically entrusted Nehemiah with the task of rebuilding Jerusalem.

What skills did this cupbearer have in wall building and defensive strategies against Jerusalem's enemies? We're not sure; maybe none. But we can observe several things about Nehemiah. First, he was discreet. Though his arrival by military escort with regal instructions no doubt attracted the attention of people who would not wish the Jews well, he arrived in Jerusalem and laid low for three days. And when he deemed the time was right to make his inspection, he took only a few men and one animal for riding (v. 12). Next, we see that Nehemiah was intentional. He recorded the exact path he took, noting even where the terrain was too filled with rubble to continue riding and he had to walk instead. Finally, we see that he was a leader and not a follower. He hadn't asked permission of anyone in authority in Jerusalem but was acting on the leadership of the Lord to make his inspection. These qualities, coupled with faith in God's path, qualified him for the position.

When Nehemiah returned from his nighttime inspection, he had seen for himself that the report from his kinsman was correct: Because of the broken walls and burned gates, the Jews were in great trouble and disgrace (1:3). So Nehemiah gathered the Jews, priests, nobles, officials, and the others who would do the work and summoned them to **"build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision."**

The spiritual implication of the condition of Jerusalem's walls pointed to the neglect and apathy of the faith of its inhabitants. But Nehemiah would not let their lazy faith prevail. In his encouragement to rebuild the wall, he told them how God's hand had been on him and what the king had said to him. God's power had been manifested in Nehemiah's own heart and in the response of King Artaxerxes. This testimony inspired the Jews and they agreed to rebuild and **"they strengthened their hands"** to do the work.

**VERSES 19-20** / Were this a story for young children, it might end here with the words "And they worked hard, built the wall, and all their dreams came true." That ending might be sentimental, but it's hardly real life. Even when we're on the right path, even when we're walking in obedience, and even when the hand of the Lord is mighty and His power is evident in what we're doing, we will still know opposition and hardship.

The names Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite had already been mentioned (2:10). In verse 19, another name is added: Geshem the Arab. Tobiah is described as an "official," so it is likely these men had governing responsibilities. They may have felt threatened by Nehemiah and his rebuilding plans, fearing that they might lose their standing if the Jews found success. They may have been mistrustful of Nehemiah's intentions. They simply may have not wanted the Jews to return for any reason. For whatever reason, they **"jeered"** Nehemiah and his compatriots, accusing them of rebelling against the king of Persia.

Though Nehemiah had every legal right and Persian authority to be where he was and to be doing what he wanted, he didn't appeal to those standards. Instead, he appealed to the highest authority—**"the God of heaven."** Nehemiah had confidence and calling directly from God alone.

# MY RESPONSE

Because we are protected and secure in Christ, we join with others to complete the kingdom work God has given us.

NOTES

## HEAD:

Nehemiah knew that walls were integral to the lasting protection and confidence of the Jews. And though the rest of the book of Nehemiah will focus on Nehemiah's mission to rebuild those walls, even the strongest walls on earth can never last forever. Only the Lord is our lasting rock, fortress, deliverer, refuge, shield, and stronghold (Ps. 18). Just as walls defended the ancient people, Jesus is our strong—and lasting—wall against sin and death. In our lifetime, we'll see that everything else we depend on—relationships, finances, jobs, community, and more—will crumble like an old wall. But we can find confidence that Jesus will always be with us.

**What are you doing to build up the walls of your faith? Where do your walls need repair?**

## HEART:

We read this story and find ourselves in one of two camps: either we know God's calling for this season of our lives or we feel disconnected from His plan for us. If God has brought you insight for your next step of faith, fill your mind and heart with Him: His love, power, holiness, and righteousness will be your stronghold as you navigate the tricky waters of walking by faith. If you are unsure of your next step, recommit your heart to Jesus, seeking His glory as you live a worshipful life and walk in obedience.

**What can you confess to God right now if you feel disconnected from God's plan for your life or if you are hesitant to follow even if you do know?**

## HANDS:

In his encouragement to rebuild the wall, Nehemiah told the people how God's hand had been on him and what the king had said to him. His testimony inspired the Jews and they agreed to help rebuild the walls. Our testimonies of God's faithfulness matter. Whether it's a story of how we came to know the Lord or of how He provided in a certain situation, if we don't share stories of God and His work and character, how will others know?

**What story of God's faithfulness in your life will you share with someone this week?**

### VOICES from THE CHURCH

"To work well in service to God also means to work as His people—as valued individuals and as a unified body of believers . . . Once we have put our faith in [Jesus], this is our eternal identity: we become part of God's called-out people."<sup>4</sup>

—Kathleen Nielson

## **POINT 1: SUCCESS IN THE LORD'S MISSION IS BASED ON HIS LASTING PROMISES (NEH. 1:8-11).**

### **+ COMMENTARY**

“He is empty-handed, but not uninvited. He knows the threats and promises of Scripture well enough to make a strong, not a tentative plea. He draws on several passages of Deuteronomy (cf. verse 8b with Deut. 28:64; verse 9 with Deut. 30:1–4 and Deut. 12:5). Most significantly in verse 10 he quotes the words in which Moses had pleaded for Israel on mount Sinai (Deut. 9:29), that God would stand by his own (thy servants and thy people) and by the work he had so strenuously begun. At that point Israel had been threatened with extinction; now, it seems, Nehemiah sees the situation as hardly less perilous. Like Moses, he must stand in the breach with his intercession.”<sup>5</sup>

### **+ OPTIONAL TEACHING ACTIVITY**

Before digging into Point 1, say: “I’m going to read to you some famous promises made by presidents of the United States. See if you know who said each of these.” Read aloud the following: “I shall go to Korea” (Eisenhower). “I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth” (Kennedy). “I have a secret plan to end the war” (Nixon). “I will never lie to you” (Carter). “We did not—repeat, did not—trade weapons or anything else for hostages, nor will we” (Reagan). “Read my lips; no new taxes” (George H. W. Bush). “The era of big government is over” (Clinton).<sup>6</sup>

Lead a brief discussion of the reliability of human promises. Even if the person is honest and intends to follow through, no person has the power to guarantee a promise fulfilled. Say: “However, God’s promises are different. He is almighty, all-knowing, and transcends time. He has the authority and power to guarantee His promises.” Invite a few volunteers to share some of their favorite promises from Scripture.

Encourage learners to start a journal of God’s promises. As they read the Bible or spend time studying it in their private worship time, they can write those promises in their journals and pray through them regularly. You may want to help them get started with a few of the more famous promises of God and Jesus: He is with us (Isa. 43:2; Josh. 1:9; Ps. 23:4); He will take care of us (Matt. 6:31-33; Prov. 3:5-6); and He is our salvation (John 14:6; 8:12).

## POINT 2: SUCCESS IN THE LORD'S MISSION IS BASED ON HIS ABUNDANT PROVISION (NEH. 2:1-10).

### + COMMENTARY

“Note Nehemiah’s prayer in 2:4. The king notices that Nehemiah is sad in his presence, which was a breach of protocol. Kings liked to be surrounded by happy people. This could have caused Nehemiah to lose his job or even his life. Some think that he deliberately staged this sadness, in light of his prayer in 1:11. Or, I think that his request in 1:11 was a daily prayer for four months, but on this particular day, Nehemiah inadvertently let his sorrow over Jerusalem show on his face, leading to this encounter. The gravity of his situation is seen in that he was ‘very much afraid’ (2:2). It was the opportunity that he had been waiting for, but when it actually came, he was terrified.”<sup>7</sup>

### + ILLUSTRATION

Before delving into Nehemiah 2:1-10, engage learners in considering all that Nehemiah would have been thinking about in the time that passed between receiving the news about Jerusalem and when he actually presented his plan to the king: Was it really Nehemiah’s place to go? Would someone else do a better job? If he were to, when? How would he get there? Who would provide the supplies and money? How would they be protected? Point out that we, like Nehemiah, often face many questions and considerations in making a big decision.

Say: “However, God opened the door for Nehemiah by making King Artaxerxes aware of his countenance; the king himself sought the request of his trusted cupbearer.” Explain that sometimes we get so worked up in the details of a situation that we don’t consider simply asking. You might show the 2:12 clip titled “You Just Asked For It?” from *The Bourne Identity* (<https://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/the-bourne-identity/you-just-asked-for-it>). If you don’t have the capability to show the clip, you could describe it: An undercover agent needs some important information from a hotel and enlists a close friend to get it for him. He gives her specific instructions: memorizing a telephone number and exits, counting her steps and the number of people in the room, and other tedious details. He almost panics when she doesn’t follow his plan exactly, but she appears outside with the exact information he needed without doing any of the tedious work—she simply asked the desk clerk for it and he gave it to her.

Point out that in addition to simply asking people in authority for a blessing or favor, we sometimes also neglect to ask God. Invite a few volunteers to read the following verses aloud from their Bibles: Jeremiah 29:12; Romans 12:12; Proverbs 15:29; Romans 8:26; and James 4:2-3.

## POINT 3: SUCCESS IN THE LORD'S MISSION IS BASED ON HIS UNSTOPPABLE POWER (NEH. 2:15-20).

### + COMMENTARY

“Once again we see Nehemiah preparing himself for the task at hand. He goes on this night ride, this secret reconnaissance, and he keeps to himself what God put into his heart to do for Jerusalem. That phrase in verse 12 about God giving him these ideas sheds light on the relationship between Nehemiah’s prayers and his plans. Nehemiah understood God’s will, and here he indicates that he is doing what the Lord has led him to do. Nehemiah’s statement in verse 16 about the people ‘who would be doing the work’ shows that he does not expect to accomplish this great task alone. Nehemiah knows that he needs the people of God to accomplish the will of God. So having studied the Bible, prayed, and acted, now Nehemiah will summon others to join him in pursuing God’s kingdom. Nehemiah calls his kinsmen to the task in verses 17–18. He begins with the sorry state of God’s kingdom on earth in verse 17 . . . God’s name is at stake in Jerusalem! And Jerusalem is rubble. For those who love God’s name, this is intolerable. Nehemiah is compelled to act, and he is compelled to call others to join him.”<sup>8</sup>

### + ILLUSTRATION

Enlist a volunteer who considers himself or herself to be quite observant. Ask him several questions about the morning of your class, including but not limited to: What time did you get up this morning? What was the temperature this morning? How long, exactly, does it take you to get here? Who all did you speak to as you walked through the building? What time did we actually begin class? If he can’t answer every question, that’s fine.

Point out that we have varying levels of natural observation skills, but we can most certainly develop how we pay attention to people and things, especially if we consider how we may bless others and glorify God through our observation. Point out that Nehemiah removed the distraction of a crowd and chose to make his trip around Jerusalem with only a few people and one animal. In doing so, he got an accurate look at the wall and the condition of the city because he was able to focus and observe.

Say: “We can do the same inside and outside our church. As we greet people, we can notice their demeanor and see how we can celebrate with them or pray for them. In class, we can listen carefully to what others say, supporting them in prayer and helping them by meeting needs. In the community, we can be on the lookout for needs that our church or our group can meet, and taking steps to help connect those people to the resources we might provide.” Engage learners in considering other ways we can carefully observe our world and use our findings to help others.

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