

# PARENT GUIDE

## Lesson 1.4: Patriarchs

JOURNEY™

IDENTITY

### ► SCRIPTURE READING

- » Hebrews 11:17–22
- » Genesis 21:1–7; 22:1–19; 25:19–26:33
- » Genesis 27–28; 32–33
- » Genesis 37; 39–41; 45–47

### SUMMARY:

In the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph we see a legacy of faith being passed down through the generations as each patriarch experienced real, personal encounters with the living God. The promises God made to Abraham are the through-line in this family's story, compelling each patriarch to overcome unique obstacles and make faith in God his own.

- Abraham had to sacrifice his expectations.
- Isaac had to submit to God's choice of heir.
- Jacob had to overcome indifference.
- Joseph had to endure hardship.

Through the imperfect obedience of the patriarchs and the expression of faithfulness throughout their lives, we see God's hand weaving the thread of redemption throughout their family's story. We find permission to wrestle with the legacy of faith we've been given until it becomes ours; and we are given hope that whatever God promises, He will fulfill even to us today.

### ► MEMORY VERSE OPTIONS

- » Hebrews 11:20–22\*
- » Genesis 50:19–20
- » Ephesians 4:32

### ► IDENTITY INSIGHT

I have been left a legacy of faith, but I must discover God's promises and make that faith my own. As I submit to God throughout my life, He grows my faith and makes me strong in Him.

### ► IMPORTANT IDEAS:

**PATRIARCH:** the word used to describe the leaders of ancient Israel, specifically the first four generations: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and his sons (most notably Joseph)

**FAITH:** the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1)

**BIRTHRIGHT:** the rights assigned to the firstborn son and heir, usually twice the property of other sons

**BLESSING:** meant, in the Old Testament, to identify the heir of a family and shape the future of those blessed; Isaac's desire before he died to bless Esau identifies Esau as Isaac's intended heir to the promises God made to him.

**FORGIVENESS:** when someone is released from guilt and restored to a relationship