

▶ LESSON 1.4: PATRIARCHS

STUDENTS STUDIED:

- » 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

STUDENTS MEMORIZED AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VERSES:

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

Students Learned the Following Definitions:

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

LESSON 1	LESSON 2	LESSON 3	LESSON 4
Students learned about God’s plan of redemption through the patriarchs of Israel.	Students examined the life of Isaac.	Students studied the life of Jacob.	Students considered the life of Joseph.
They considered the difference between legacy (the faith someone leaves behind) and the promises of God (what God calls someone toward) as illustrated through the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph.	They explored what it looks like to wait on God and trust His plan and timing, learning that His faithfulness in the past gives them the courage to confidently face their future.	They learned about Old Testament blessings and birthrights, and considered what it means to wrestle with faith.	They discovered that their identity is defined by who God says they are rather than life circumstances or what others believe about them.

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.

Students circled which verse they chose to memorize.

HEBREWS 11:20-22*

GENESIS 50:19-20

EPHESIANS 4:32

DISCUSSION

► SHARE

Tell students about a time you had to forgive someone an offense or a time you had to ask forgiveness from someone else. Share what was difficult about the interaction and the outcome.

- How did you respond or initiate?
- What was difficult about the interaction?
- What did you learn?
- How did it change you, moving forward?
- How is your relationship with that person now?

► ASK

Like we read in Joseph's story, sometimes people sin against us. Fortunately, Jesus gives us specific instructions about what to do when this happens. Read Matthew 18:15-17 as a group. Ask students, "How should we approach someone who has offended us?"

► ACT

Read Matthew 5:21-24 as a group and discuss. Encourage students to identify who they may need to reconcile with and create a plan to ask for their forgiveness.

TEACHING NOTES:
