

God’s Faithfulness through the Generations Answer Key

Questions	First Generation: Abraham and Sarah Genesis, chapter 12, chapters 15–17, 18:1–15, 21:1–21	Second Generation: Isaac and Rebekah Genesis 22:1–19, chapter 24, 25:19–34	Third Generation: Jacob, his brother Esau, and his wives Rachel and Leah Genesis 27:1–45, 29:1–30, 32:23–32, 33:1–20	Fourth Generation: Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph Genesis, chapters 37, 39, 41–45
2. Book of Genesis notes	<i>Student responses will vary.</i>	<i>Student responses will vary.</i>	<i>Student responses will vary.</i>	<i>Student responses will vary.</i>
3a. What challenges or difficulties did these ancestors in faith face? Include challenges that are simply related to the circumstances of their lives as well as difficulties they may have brought on themselves through poor decision-making or sinful behaviors.	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah is unable to conceive a child. • The jealousy and drama among Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar results in Hagar and Ishmael being sent away. • Abraham and Sarah have ongoing doubts about whether God is faithful to the covenant. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham nearly sacrifices Isaac. • Jacob and Esau’s rivalry seems to begin in the womb. • Isaac favors Esau, and Rebekah favors Isaac. • Jacob steals Esau’s birthright. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacob steals Isaac’s blessing that had been intended for Esau. • Because Esau threatens to kill Jacob, Rebekah sends Jacob away. • Jacob is tricked into marrying Leah instead of Rachel. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph’s brothers are jealous of him because their father, Jacob, favors Joseph. • Joseph’s brothers fake Joseph’s death and sell him into slavery in Egypt. • Joseph is jailed for a crime he did not commit.
3b. How do we see God being faithful to our ancestors in faith, even in the midst of challenging and difficult circumstances? Note that in some stories, the presence of God may be very obvious; in others, God may be present in a more subtle or symbolic manner.	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In God’s initial call to Abraham, he asked Abraham and Sarah to move to a new land that he would show him. • God visited Abraham and Sarah in the form of three visitors. • God blesses Sarah with a child, Isaac, in her old age. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God intervenes at the last moment to save Isaac’s life. • God renews the covenant with Abraham and his descendants. • God helps Isaac find and marry Rebekah. • God blesses Rebekah with twin sons, Jacob and Esau. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacob encounters a divine being, which results in his new name, Israel. • Jacob and Esau reconcile. • Jacob has many children. 	<i>Possible responses include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph has the ability to interpret dreams. • Joseph saves many lives during the famine, including the lives of his own family members. • Joseph forgives his brothers and reconciles with them. • Joseph understands that all his struggles—including being sold into slavery—fit together as part of God’s plan to preserve life.
4. Film trailer project depicting the lives of each patriarch and matriarch.	<i>Student films will vary.</i>	<i>Student films will vary.</i>	<i>Student films will vary.</i>	<i>Student films will vary.</i>

