

Overview

In Chapter 4 the students learned that God kept his promises and was with his people as they struggled with the effects of Original Sin. In this chapter the students will learn about our ancestors in faith.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The students will learn:	Paragraph
• The patriarchs are our ancestors in faith.	61
• God chose Abraham to be the father of his people.	59
• God’s people became known as the Israelites.	63
• God cared for the Israelites.	303



patriarch
Canaan
faith
providence
pharaoh

Catechist Background

Who are some of your ancestors?

A story in the Book of Genesis that immediately precedes the introduction of Abram tells about the Tower of Babel. We learn that it was from Babel that God “confused the speech of all the world” and “scattered them all over the earth” (11:9). With Abram God begins to gather a people to himself, and God’s plan of salvation becomes clearer. “In order to gather together scattered humanity God calls Abram from his country, his kindred, and his father’s house, and makes him Abraham, that is, ‘the father of a multitude of nations’” (CCC 59).

Most of the Book of Genesis revolves around Abraham and his descendants Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. These four men are called the patriarchs. If we open our focus a little wider, we will see that alongside Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are three remarkable spouses: Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel. Perhaps the word *ancestors* rather than *patriarchs* would better reflect this reality. The patriarchs or ancestors represent four generations of the same family, stretching from great-grandparents

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching.

(Abraham and Sarah) to their great-grandchild (Joseph). God revealed to the ancestors a plan. If they obeyed and revered God, he promised them land, children with whom to form a great nation, and the ability to be a blessing for other nations.

“I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you
and curse those who curse you.

All the communities of the earth
shall find blessing in you.”

(Genesis 12:2–3)

How is God blessing you? How are you a blessing for others?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

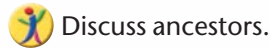
Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 67



- Reflect on keeping our hearts open to God's love.
- Respond in prayer.



For the prayer space: Bible opened to Psalm 95; student text opened to Unit 1 timeline

2 WE BELIEVE

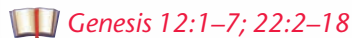
pages 68–69

The patriarchs are our ancestors in faith.

- Read about and discuss the Patriarchs.
- Do the future generations activity.

pages 70–71

God chose Abraham to be the father of his people.



- Read about Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.
- Discuss trust in God; write a prayer.
- Read and discuss *As Catholics*.

- images of angels and copies of guardian angel prayers (option)

pages 72–73

God's people become known as the Israelites.

- Read about and discuss Esau and Jacob.
- Advise Esau.

pages 74–75

God cared for the Israelites.



- Present the text about Joseph and the Israelites.

3 WE RESPOND

page 75

- Reflect on God's action in our lives.

pages 76–77
Project Disciple

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 5 (back of book)

page 78
Chapter 5 Test

- Complete **Chapter 5 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 5 (back of book)

For additional ideas, activities, and opportunities: Visit Sadlier's

www.WEBELIEVEweb.com