

SYLLABUS for OLD TESTAMENT

Freshmen, Spring 2015

School mission statement: To challenge you to grow in knowing, loving and serving God and others.

Course description: The primary focus is for you to see God working in Old Testament history, carrying out his plan of redemption. This will also include the story of how we got the Bible, the role of the Bible in our lives, and basic Bible interpretation. An emphasis is on what we can learn about God and apply that to our own lives. The basic premise for the whole course is that the Bible is absolute truth from cover to cover and therefore has authority due to being inspired by God.

Teacher information: Leland Vanderaa, lvanderaa@yahoo.com 507-220-1142
Visiting options: Open periods: 1 and 4, before school, after eating, after school, early outs and special appointments

Teaching: Material will be presented using notes, stories, activities and one major project. There will be an effort to promote the asking of questions. These questions might come from the material being presented or from students' experiences and concerns. All questions will be considered first of all from what the Bible says, then from other sources. Class discussions are welcomed and encouraged. It is expected that you will listen to each other and the teacher with respect and have a desire to learn from each other.

Goals:

1. You will have the opportunity to grow in your faith and knowledge of God.
2. You will see how God works, his providence in the Old Testament and our roles in his kingdom.
3. You will be able to review the history portion of the Old Testament.
4. You will be encouraged to do regular Bible reading.
5. You will be challenged to learn the Redemption Plan and the books of the Bible.
6. You will be challenged to think critically about yourselves and the world.
7. You will be challenged to consider your identity and purpose as children of God.

Unit Outline:

1. Introduction: General Bible overview, maps
2. The story of the Bible (how we received it)
3. Other people's positions on the Bible
4. The role of the Bible in a believer's life-private worship
5. Bible interpretation
6. The Redemption Plan
 - A. Genesis
 1. Creation
 2. The Fall-Choosing to rebel
 3. God's answer
 4. Cain and Abel
5. The flood
6. Tower of Babel
7. Abraham
8. Isaac
9. Jacob

B. Exodus

1. Call of Moses
2. Ten Plagues
3. Exodus
4. Mt. Sinai - The Ten Best Ways to Live

C. Conquest

D. Judges-”There was no king”

Homework:

1. 55 reading quizzes on the history/chronology of the Old Testament. The quizzes are given at the beginning of class, Tuesdays through Friday, not including test days.
2. Magazine project: group project of three to four students putting together a magazine on a section of Old Testament history. This includes six individual assignments plus a final group grade on the completed magazine.
3. Extra Credit:
 - a. You may complete various worksheets upon request which cover material from poor quizzes.
 - b. For every approved book read and reviewed, a student’s grade will improve up to 2%. Books must be by Christian authors and have been signed up. You review the book by talking with the teacher about the book.

Tests: There will be three tests per quarter, about one every three weeks.

Course materials: We will use on-line resources for the Bible(biblegateway.com). You may bring your own Bibles to class if you prefer.

Grading:

The semester grade is the average of the two quarter grades.

A	100-96
A-	95-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-63
D-	62-60
F	59

