

# Sophomore Bible

**John Chaffin, Instructor**

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**770/243-2000 ext/ 644**

**Help Sessions: Wednesday mornings 7:15 – 8:05 as necessary**

The 2008 – 2009 Academic year sees eight sections of Sophomore Bible with two different instructors, John Clovis and John Chaffin. Mr. Clovis is the lead teacher and has set the curriculum materials for the class. It is a goal of the Bible Department that all of the students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade study that same materials and follow the same outline as much as possible. Thus, students in Mr. Chaffin's sections should find the syllabus and course outline to be practically the same as that of Mr. Clovis' sections. While there will be some differences in styles of presentation of some of the materials, all sophomore students should be able to take the exams from either instructor without any difficulties, as in most cases they will be the same exams over the same materials. Major assignments and exams will be the same, there may be some differences in the use of pop-quizzes, etc., when deemed appropriate by either instructor.

It should be understood that any particular practice by one instructor is not necessarily binding upon the other instructor.

## OBJECTIVES:

1. The study of the Bible is central to the aims of Greater Atlanta Christian School. Thus, our objective in all Bible classes at G. A. C. S. is to make each student more familiar with the Bible.
2. Sophomore Bible is the study of the Life of Christ and a Harmony of the Gospels, plus introductory work in the period between the Testaments. Special emphasis will be given to studies of:
  - Life and Times of the world Jesus was born into
  - The Prophecies and fulfillment of a coming Messiah
  - Jesus as God in the flesh & birth of Jesus
  - the Sermon on the Mount & early ministry of Jesus
  - The Miracles of Jesus
  - The Parables of Jesus
  - The claims of Deity of Jesus
  - The Arrest, Trial, Death, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus.
3. A subsequent objective will be the inclusion of the principles of the teachings of Christ into each of our lives and their effect upon one's development of faith.

## AFFIRMATION OF BELIEF:

I, John Chaffin, as the instructor of these sections of Sophomore Bible, do affirm a belief in the following:

1. A belief in God as a Spiritual reality who is the creator of all things.
2. A belief in Jesus Christ as being the Son of God, who as deity came to earth in the form of a man, and through whom is the only access into a righteous relationship with God.
3. A belief in the Bible as the complete revealed will of God to mankind and the source of instruction for righteous living before God.

**It is my goal, my aim, my purpose to introduce you this year to the person Jesus of Nazareth, and to help you see that this Jesus is the Son of God, God come to earth as a human being, and that He still lives today existing as a personal advocate at the right hand of God the Father.**

**HONOR CODE:**

As in all classes at Greater Atlanta Christian School, it is expected that each student will strictly follow the Honor Code which has been adopted. It is as follows:

*In order to maintain honor in my relationships, I agree to do what is RIGHT, to speak the TRUTH, and to strive for INTEGRITY in all that I do. Therefore, I will not be involved in lying, cheating, or stealing. If I do vary from this path of honor, I will accept the correction from others and the established consequences of this school. Honor is a goal that I seek to maintain.*

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:**

**Understanding that the Student – Parent Handbook shall have priority consideration in all conduct matters, the following principles shall be the expectation without exception.**

Added to “the three R’s” will be three more R’s – **Responsibility, Respect and Religion.**

1. Respect, good manners, and consideration of others will be the standard expected from each student. Disrespect of any form toward any instructor or student will not be tolerated.
2. You must be in your seat by the time Mr. Chaffin starts the devotional for the day. If you are not in your seat at that time, you will be counted tardy. If you have an explanation for your tardy that you believe is reasonable, you may discuss it with me AFTER class. The final decision is up to me. The discipline plan on tardies as outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed in each case. This will include contact with parents.
3. Passes from class will be administered very carefully, since leaving class during instruction time deprives you of the instruction being carried on.
4. Personal grooming of any type should be private and **is not appropriate classroom behavior.** Do not put on any make-up, fingernail polish, comb or brush your hair or any one else’s, etc., in class.
5. The writing and passing of notes during class in unacceptable behavior.
6. Never abuse school property. Do not put your feet on a chair, or sit on the arm of a desk. Also, never write on a desk, the wall, etc.
7. Eating food items and consumption of drinks in the classroom are not permitted and are not to be brought into Bible Building by students. The exception to this is that lunch may be brought as long as it is enclosed within an acceptable container and remains there for the duration of class time prior to the lunch period. Violations will result in discipline plan consequences and loss of this privilege. This also includes those classes who meet immediately following lunch. No food items or beverages other than water are to be brought into the building following lunch.

**Students are NOT permitted to go to the Spartan Store between classes and a tardy which is the result will automatically be unexcused without excuse and will be subject to the proper administrative discipline action.**

8. The class is over when the bell rings **and** the instructor has indicated that you may leave. You will be expected to stay in the classroom and maintain acceptable behavior until dismissed by the instructor.
9. Cell Phones, Beepers, Pagers, Palm Pilots and Calculators, IPOD’s: **These are not to be seen at any time in the classroom.** All communication devices must be in the **silent mode at all times in class and must be stored away in purses or book bags. They may not be out on the desk or a seat beside you.** It is your responsibility to inform all who have your cell phone or pager number that you will not be permitted to accept any calls during the class period.

**Parents: should you need to contact your child in the case of an emergency during the school day, please note that this is to be done only through the school office.**

Students, whose phones, beepers or pagers sound during the class period or attempt to use them during class time, will have those instruments taken immediately by the instructor. They shall be turned over to the office of the Dean of Students and the student will have to arrange through that office in order to get it back.

Students will not be excused from class during the class period to step out into a hall or go outside the building in order to use a cell phone unless it is an emergency determined by the school office. Should a phone call be necessary to be made, the office will generally make an announcement authorizing such or a request will be made from the office for the student to be allowed to make such a call. Such authorization must come from an administrator or office secretary in order to be honored. A simple request from a student to use a phone shall always be denied during the time of a class period. Students may be dismissed from class early to use a phone only if a note has been sent from the office or an announcement has been made, otherwise, students must wait until the dismissal bell and must not be late to the next class.

Unauthorized phone use shall never be an acceptable excuse for a tardy or absence of any amount of time from a class. Using a cell phone between classes and being late to class is automatically an unexcused tardy to class.

10. CD players and headsets, cassette or portable radio players and/or headsets are not to be brought to class unless specifically instructed to do so by the Sophomore Bible instructor.

- 1st offense: Student will be told to put these items away and not to bring them back
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: The item will be taken and given to the appropriate Dean of Students along with a Disciplinary Referral Form.

#### **CLASS ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP WORK:**

**You, not the instructor,** are responsible for keeping up with your work. If you miss a test or quiz, it must be made up at the very next available testing opportunity, not to exceed one week of your return to school. **A zero will be recorded in the Grade Book until the missing test or assignment is made up.** Tests will be made up on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday during Academic Lab period or after school. It is your responsibility to arrange to make up any work missed at that time. Tests will **NOT** be made up during the regular class time. **If you are absent only the day of the test, you are expected to make up the work the next opportunity after your return.**

If a student is absent on the day of any assignment or test (for any reason: school activity, trip, class outing, athletic competition, music festival, whatever), a zero will be entered into the grade book and will remain until the grade opportunity is made up. If the student fails to make up the work or test in the allotted time frame, the zero becomes permanent and cannot be changed or made-up at a later date. **It is the student's responsibility to take care of this in a timely manner, not the instructor. The instructor will not give constant reminders of work that is delinquent.**

If a student is absent from class for a school related activity and is to be marked as present for that date, it is the student's responsibility to obtain all materials presented in class on that date. The student shall be responsible for any and all assignments which are made on that date and have them due at the time to which they are assigned. Understand that having to leave school early to travel to an athletic event, a music event, or any other like activity does not dismiss the student from responsibility of what takes place in the class on that date nor shall there be any extra time granted.

**When a test, quiz, or exam is announced for a certain date, being absent during the day or class period immediately before the announced date does not excuse one from the responsibility of**

**taking the exercise on the announced date. It is the responsibility of the student to secure the necessary materials and information needed for proper preparation.**

#### ACADEMIC GRADING SYSTEM:

Grades in this class are on a total point system. Each assignment and test will be assigned a total point value. Individual questions shall usually be worth one point toward that total value.

The final semester exam will be worth approximately 15% of the semester grade. The Semester exam may be exempted either in the fall or the spring semesters, but not both. In order to exempt the semester exam, all of the stipulations established by the Academic Office must be met. These involve having a current average of 90 or above in the classwork, no unexcused absences and within the limit of excused tardies and class absences. Students on any kind of probation are not eligible for exemption privileges.

Grade averages are reported as they are. Because of periodic bonus opportunities, grades will not be rounded up. Thus a class average of 89.50 will be reported as an 89, not rounded up to 90. An 89.99 will not qualify one for exam exemption.

#### EFFORT GRADE:

An effort grade will be based on many factors, and will also be reflecting in your standing in the discipline program for the class. Among the criteria are:

- ◆ Do you have your notebook and a pencil/pen each day?
- ◆ Do you pay attention in class?
- ◆ Do you waste time or create disruptions for others in class?
- ◆ Do you waste time passing notes or whispering conversations in class?
- ◆ Do you take part in class discussions in a positive manner about the topic being studied?
- ◆ Do you work on material from other classes during Bible class?

Violations such as the ones listed above will result in deductions from graded activities for that day. If there is not grade taken during the day, the deductions will be reflected in the next graded activity.

#### HELP SESSIONS:

Help sessions will be available on Wednesday mornings from 7:15 – 8:00 a.m., as needed. Additional time for help or personal conferences can be arranged between the student and instructor at a mutually agreeable time. Parent conferences should be arranged and scheduled through the Academic Office, Dr. Morris at 770/243-2263. Messages may be left of my voice mail at 770/243-2380 ext. 644 or preferably by e-mail at [jchaffin@greateratlantachristian.org](mailto:jchaffin@greateratlantachristian.org)

#### TESTING:

As you see from the schedule of class activities that you will be given, there will be a test in this class of some description nearly every other week. It will be over the material listed in your class outline. There may also be weekly **cumulative** memory-verse quizzes.

#### EXTRA CREDIT:

**There will not be opportunities for individual extra credit assignments for the purpose of changing grades. Absolutely no extra credit opportunities during the last six weeks period of each semester.**

**GRADE REPORTING:**

In addition to the 6 weeks grade reports and the interim deficiency reports which are sent home by the Academic Office, a print out of a student's grades will be given out periodically to the student with the assignment of taking this report home and having it signed by the parent. This report is to be returned to the instructor who shall keep these reports in a file. Should a parent-teacher conference be called through the Academic Office, the instructor shall make these reports available during the conference for review. Each grade report shall be due back to the instructor the second class period after being handed out.

TO: Parents and students of Tenth Grade Bible Classes of Mr. Chaffin

Attached is the syllabus for Tenth Grade Bible and the course outline for the course year. Please read completely, sign this page on the lines provided.

This sheet is to be returned by Mr.Chaffin by Friday. August 15, 2008. If it is done on or before that date, the student will receive ten points on his/her grade. For each day that it is late, one point will be deducted.

We have read the syllabus and course outline for Tenth Grade Bible, including the Honor Code. ***In addition to this syllabus, I understand that I will be held to the policies listed in both the general and senior high sections of the GAC Parent Student Handbook. More so, I commit to abiding by both the written expectations and the "spirit of the law" outlined in the handbook. In all that I do I will seek to do what is right, to speak the truth, and strive for integrity.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian)

Please complete the blanks below for communication purposes that might become helpful during the course of the academic year.

Student Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Mother Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (F) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone #'s (F) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Student E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please below list the religious affiliation and the church that the student attends on a regular basis.

Religious Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Attends: \_\_\_\_\_