The Bible is a very simple book to understand, in fact according to English grammar specialists... "The Authorized KJV Bible is written at a 3rd grade reading level." When I hear someone say, "in the Greek this should read this way or in the Hebrew this should read that way". What are these scholars telling you? Well they are telling me that they cannot trust the God who was able to create all mankind, all the planets, all the stars, all the universes, they cannot trust that this God is able to write down the correct words in his Holy Bible in a manner that you and I will understand. Look at John 1:38. Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?. If you needed Hebrew, why would there be the interpretation of Hebrew words in the Bible when Hebrew words are used in the Bible? If you needed Greek, why would you have the interpretation of Greek words in the Bible when they are used in the Bible? Wouldn't the Holy Spirit have just said, They said unto him, Rabbi…; and then you would have said, "oh wow! I need to know Greek and Hebrew to find out what Rabbi means." No, the Holy Spirit wanted you to have what you needed in your language, so He gave you the interpretation. Matthew 27:46 "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" If God wants you to have a word in your Bible that is not English, He will leave it in the Bible untranslated and then give you the translation in the Bible. We are not against people studying Hebrew; it will sure help you if you are going to Israel. nor are we against studying Greek; it will help you if you were going to Greece, If I was going to Russia, I would want to learn Russian.

We know great Christian people who believe every word of the King James Bible that are learning Hebrew and Greek so they can make certain they are getting a good translation of the King James Bible into whatever language they are trying to translate into, that is fine, but we speak English, we know English, we were all raised speaking English. What upsets me is when I hear someone same, "Well I looked in my Strong's concordance and it translated the word differently than the way it is in my Bible" so I would not have to wonder which of the two hundred Greek texts was Strong's looking at when he made up his concordance. I also wonder if when you are looking at the Strong's concordance what are you really looking for. A man's Greek interpretation of an English word. When I want to find out what an English word means I go to a English dictionary, Does that make sense?

Back to our verse…Rabbi, …where dwellest thou? He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour. What a great picture on how somebody gets saved? In verse John1:36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! Somebody points them to Jesus. Do you see that in verse 36? In verse 37, they want to know more. They decide to follow Jesus. In verse 38, (now watch how this matches what we said earlier) when they started following Jesus in response to what they heard about Jesus, He turned and spoke to them. He gave them more; they wanted more, He gave them more. If they had not followed Him, they would not have had this conversation. He said, what seek ye? They said, well, we want to know where you live. Which is kind of an odd question. Think about it. They could
of said “Are you really God? How do you take away the sin of the world? What does John mean, you were before him?” No. They said, “where do you live”?

The Bible says, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners!" You hand someone a gospel tract then sometimes they say. Where do you go to church?" Think about it – it is the same thing? “I just gave you a gospel tract and told you that you could have eternal life and you want to know, where I go on Sundays?"

Back to our verse John 1:36…where dwellest thou? 37.. He saith unto them, Come and see. Now look. They came and saw where he dwelt… And they followed on. Look – it is salvation. God gives you a little bit. You respond. He gives you a little bit more. You respond. So they come and see and what do they do? They abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

John 1:40. One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. So, again, the Bible interprets the Bible, no need for Greek of Hebrew here.

It is plain in the Bible thinking the Christ is a person; it is the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. And notice how Andrew talks in John 1: 40 just like every new Christian talks. God sends His Son into the world. His Son walks down to the Jordan River. There is a forerunner there that says, Behold the Lamb of God. He is coming by and John says, "look, there He is. That is Him!" And Andrew says, “We found Him!" You found Him? You mean, did not God put Him right in front of your face? You found Him? And yet, is not that how you felt when you got saved? "I found the Lord!" You mean, the stone of stumbling hit you right in the shins? (The Bible is so real. It is exactly right. It reveals the thoughts and intents of the human heart.) This whole incident is telling how God put Jesus in the path of these men and they say, “we found Him!”

John 1:42. And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone. Jesus did not call Simon Peter the rock. He called him a stone. That is your cross reference to Matthew 16:18. That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church. People say, “well, there is Peter the small rock… The Greek says…” No Greek nothing! Cross reference, use the Bible. Bible with Bible. A stone. Jesus said... I am going to build my church on a Rock, speaking of himself

John 1:43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me. Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip findeth Nathanael… This kind of puts a damper on those that say "Well God has not called me to witness," that is not true. When somebody meets the Lord, what do they do? They go get somebody else and say,” you have to come meet the Lord!” That is the way that it is supposed to be! …and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. Phillip just laid out the dispensational lines without any theological training? He said, we have three things that we are dealing with. We have the law from Moses. We have the prophets. Here is Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph. Look what Peter knew. He said, Moses in the law wrote about this man. We found the Man the law spoke about. We found the Man that the Prophets spoke about. Now think about this.

I know Andrew, Peter, Philip and Nathanael were not clear on everything written in the Old Testament about Jesus. But you can not say that nobody understood it. Because the day Phillip met Jesus, he already knew the law was written about a Messiah, not
commandments, not sacrifices. (The Law wrote about this guy.) The prophet’s prophesied about this Man – “we found the One that Zechariah, Haggai and Joel were talking about; we found the Old Testament hope!” It is Jesus Christ!

John 1:46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? That must have been a bad place. Think about it. Can anything good thing come out of Nazareth? We cannot even think of a place on earth today that you would say that about. Maybe Las Vegas or San Francisco? But then you think – there are a million people there, there has to be somebody there that is saved. There has to be somebody there doing something for God. But Nazareth, its reputation is that there is nothing good that could come from that place; so God in His wisdom, where does He have Jesus grow up? Nazareth! He is a Nazarene. “There is nothing good out of Nazareth…” Well, here is a Man that never speaks a bad word. Here is a man that never does a bad thing. The most unlikely place for the sinless, spotless man of God.

I lived in Arizona and Nevada for 4 years during the summer I could see desert roses growing along the side of the road, how beautiful they are, but yet, how? The ground is dry and hard, the sun is blistering for 8 hours of the day, the nights are cold, and in four years it rained once, when rain hits that dry ground, It is like water on concrete, How do those roses grow? They are a picture of our Lord Jesus Christ, Isaiah 53:2...a root out of a dry ground: And here is Jesus growing up in Nazareth. Here is this city with this reputation of nothing but dirt, filth, evil and hardness of heart; and right there growing up in the middle of it is the Son of God! Now I like that; I will tell you why.

Nobody had worse leadership in the church they grew up in than Samuel; and he turned out right because his heart was right. Moses was raised in the Egyptian schools under Pharaoh and he turned out right because his heart was right. And Jesus grew up in a wicked city called Nazareth; and He grew up right because His heart was right. So I am just telling you, you can raise a child in a Christian school or a home school and a great church and they can end up out in the world; and you can send them to a public school or the are forced to attend services at a church that is not teaching properly, if they love the Lord, they can turn out right and do something for God. That is not to say that it is not important to teach your children the Bible, in fact the bible promises that when they are old they will not depart...Proverbs 22:6 You must understand that your child has his own will. You can do everything right and he could go the wrong direction the scripture promises "when he is old"– that child has a will. And you can have a child in a house where Mom and Dad are not even saved and that child can have a heart for God and get saved and do something for the Lord. So thank God for that.

John 1:46, end of the verse, Philip saith unto him, Come and see. That is if you have a little bit of light, come and get some more light! Have a little faith? Come and get some more faith. Come and see. Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed... Now that is what God is looking for! Not an Israelite by birth, but an Israelite indeed. Romans 9:6. Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Now here is what I believe this statement is, when Jesus says, Behold an Israelite indeed. There was a man back in Genesis named Jacob. Do you remember when they wrestled and God changed his name and said, your name shall be Israel? If you read the rest of Genesis, the story of that man’s life Whenever that man was acting in the flesh, God called him Jacob. And whenever that man was acting in faith, God called him Israel. Jesus looks at Nathanael and says, “that is an Israelite right there! That is a man who lives by faith.”
And he says, **Behold an Israelite indeed; in whom is no guile!** Do you know what guile is? You are not lying; but you are misleading. You are not really gossiping, but you are getting the job done. “Hey can you pray for Matthew, he gets drunk once in a while and still comes to church?” That is the sin of gossip “Bob would you help me pray for Billy. I do not want to tell you what he is doing, but I think there is some things that we both agree on that are not right…” That is a mouth full of guile! See, I could produce a transcript of that conversation and you could say “I did not say that Billy was drinking.” But you are using your dirty little mouth to do some dirty work without necessarily sinning.

“Did you take that money I left on the table?” “Are you missing some money?” You just spoke with guile – you did not answer my question. You used an inflection and a tone of voice to gave me the impression that you did not take the money. You did not lie; you did not say, I did not take it. And you did not confess to taking it so I cannot pin you down but you spoke to mislead me. That is what guile is.

Nathanael said, “look, I am telling you the truth straight up. You do not have to wonder about what I was intending when I said it.” Are you not always suspicious of people, after awhile you think, I wonder what he meant by that? Because it was really what he said; and he never really said something that he should not have said, but it could go three or four different directions depending upon the situation. Politicians exist on guile. You can deliberately mislead somebody without lying. You can deliberately misrepresent a situation by leaving out important details, this is guile.

John 1:48 **Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.** The scripture does not tell us how far away the fig tree was, but it was enough to boggle Nathanael’s mind. **Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.** Look at the order. Is the order right? The order is right. Son of God. Then King of Israel. So he had the order right. Then notice what he says. You have Herod in place. You have Caiphas in place. You have Pilot in place. There is no throne. And he says, **thou art**, right now, present tense, He said, right now you are the King of Israel. What a thing to say – but what is he saying? I believe the promises of a future kingdom reside in you. Who said the same thing? Think of who made the same declaration made by faith. “thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God…” I am talking about the King of Israel. Who acknowledged Jesus as the King of Israel when for all practical purposes He was not? The thief on the cross. “Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom…Luke 23:42 Your kingdom? You are dying! But that thief on the cross believed the promises regarding the kingdom were entailed in this man and that is what Nathanael confesses here.

Here is what Andrew, Peter, Phillip and Nathanael knew. The Old Testament prophets said, a Saviour would come, it would be a man, not an army; and a king would come to rule over Israel; it would be a man, not a movement. They knew that. Now, the extent of that understanding I do not know but Nathanael knew two things. You are the Son of God. Thou art the King of Israel. We found the Messiah. We found the Christ – so they know that that is what the Old Testament teaches and they also know that whoever that Saviour is, that Messiah is, He is also King and is going to set up a kingdom.

Think about this. He is God. He does not have to have an army. He does not even have to have a following. He can take the whole thing over by himself. The prophets spoke
and that is what they said. Zechariah 4:6 Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Isaiah 63:3 I have trodden the winepress alone...Psalms 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. All through the Old Testament, it was not about this revolutionary overthrowing the government. It was a stone cut out with hands (Daniel 2:34) that went down crushing the image of Nebuchadnezzar. And it looks to me like, here is a collection of guys that became John’s disciples because they are already after the truth of the scripture. And then they became Jesus disciples because they were already after the truth that John had revealed to them. These guys wanted it; and God gave it to them.

Notes
The Book of John
Lesson 4

Read John 1:19-51

Name ______________________________

1. What is the reading grade level of the Authorized KJV Bible?

2. Explain the meaning of the word "guile"

3. When is it important for you to study the Greek and Hebrew languages?

4. Explain Isaiah 53:2 in light of Jesus being raised in the city of Nazareth?

5. Explain why the order is right in the term used by Nathanael "Thou art the Son of God Thou are the King of Israel"

6. How can a child that is raised in a good home and taught the right things still turn out to be a rebel child?

7. Name two people in the Bible that were raised in not the best of surroundings and yet still turned out loving God?

8. Explain the whole process of salvation according to this lesson.

9. Where should you look to find the definition of an English word in the Bible?

10. What did Andrew do right after he found Jesus? explain what this it telling us as believers..

11. Explain the difference between the two names "Jacob and Israel"

12. Explain the odd question "where dwellest thou?"
13. Explain why (your answer to # 12) it was not really such an odd question using an example of living during the 21st century.

14. What do verses 24-25 reveal about the religious structure of Israel at the time of Jesus?

15. Explain why the foundation of the Church was not founded on Peter.

True/false
- To be a knowledgeable Christian one must learn the Greek and Hebrew to be able to interpret the Bible correctly.
- The Bible is so simple, that even a child can understand
- The meaning of the word "guile" is not telling the complete truth.

Scripture Memorization; (write these on the back on the sheet, Must be in KJV)
John 1:38; Isaiah 53:2; Proverbs 22:6

any questions?