

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek. Therefore it needs to be translated into English. There are 3 types of translations:

1. word for word translations –The NASB (The New American Standard Bible)
2. meaning for meaning translations –the NIV (New International Version)
3. Paraphrases—The Message

Although paraphrases can be useful to gain insight into Biblical passages, they should not be used in place of a good translation. They should be used much like you would use a commentary, because people have put their own interpretations into the scripture.

All scripture used in these courses are from the New American Standard Bible (updated edition) unless noted otherwise. This translation is one of the best and most trustworthy versions available. If you have concerns or questions concerning this, please contact me at WTDdino@juno.com. You may use whatever version you desire to use, but this version is my personal preference. I would encourage you to use a version that is a translation and not a paraphrase. A paraphrase is not the literal word of God. I am very familiar with the King James, the New King James, the NIV and NEV. I would not use the King James Version simply because the language is so difficult to explain to others. It is no different that explaining Shakespeare to others. I personally feel that it interferes so much with teaching that I would not use it.