

And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" (Matt 12:23)

### Learning Objectivity

# What is the difference between objectivity and subjectivity?

- Objectivity = (of a person or their judgment) not influenced by personal feelings or opinions in considering and representing facts
- <u>Subjectivity</u> = based on or influenced by personal feelings, tastes, or opinions
- "God is like the sun, you cannot look at it, but without it, you cannot look at anything else." (G.K. Chesterton)



#### Principles of Objectivity

- Living objectively is a choice
- What I believe (subjectively) does not change objective truth
  - Healing of the Paralytic



#### Principles of Objectivity

- To be objective, one must learn to distinguish what is subjective and objective
  - 1 King 22:8 So the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the Lord; but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil."
  - 1 Sam. 18:8-9 "Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" So Saul eyed David from that day forward."

## How may I learn to be more objective?

- 1. Do not allow subjective feelings (love, loyalty, and family duty) to lessen your priority to objective commitment to God.
  - <u>Luke 8:20</u> "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it."
- 2. Avoid projecting blame on others
- 3. Ask, "What can I learn from the difficult and worrisome circumstances of life?"

## How may I learn to be more objective?

- 4. Heed constructive criticism
- 5. Put yourself in another's shoes
  - Luke 6:31 "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise."
- 6. Be a good listener



#### Summary

- What is the difference between objectivity and subjectivity?
  - Objective based on facts
  - Subjective based on feelings and emotions
- Principles of Objectivity
  - Living objectively is a choice
  - What I believe (subjectively) does not change objective truth
  - To be objective, one must learn to distinguish what is subject and objective
- How may I learn to be more objective?
  - Do not allow subjective feelings (love, loyalty, and family duty) to lessen your priority to objective commitment to God.
  - Avoid projecting blame on others
  - Ask, "What can I learn from the difficult and worrisome circumstances of life?"
  - Heed constructive criticism
  - Put yourself in another's shoes
  - Be a good listener