

“The Emotional Freedom of Objectivity”  
Genesis 4:1-10

*“ ‘I feel’ steals my joy, strength, hope, faith, love, sound mind, zeal, and faithfulness. ‘I know’ establishes my joy, strength, hope, faith, love, sound mind, zeal, and faithfulness.”*

- Cain and Abel:
  - Hebrews 11:1-4: Abel offered a more acceptable sacrifice because it was offered in obedience, according to God’s objective standard, in dependence on God to give him the solution to the problem of sin. His faith is seen in obedience to objectivity.
  - 1 John 3:11-14: Love for one another (obedience) is evidence of faith in God’s objective truth. Cain showed the heart behind his sacrifice by his response to God’s call for him to repent and depend on God’s provision of grace and mercy. Cain refused to submit to objectivity because of how he felt.
    - *Feeling: A belief, especially a vague (uncertain or indefinite) or irrational (not objective or logical) one that is subject to change.*
- God created a universe of **order**. God created a universe of **authority**. God created a universe of **moral standards**. God created a universe of **grace and mercy**.
- **Objectivism**: Reality, that is what is true, transcends culture, society, feelings, opinions, and preferences. This objective truth or reality is what we will be judged according to with no partiality. *“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness (according to objective truth) shall you judge your neighbor” (Leviticus 19:15). “Circumcise therefore the foreskins of your heart, and be no longer stubborn (repent, submit, and humble yourself before God’s reality). For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and awesome God (He is reality, He is authority, He is truth, He is the standard, He is worthy of submission and worship) who is not partial and takes no bribe (He cannot be manipulated, controlled, or His standard changed)” (Deuteronomy 10:16-17). “So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please Him (objectively). For (because) we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (an impartial judgment), so that each one must receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil (an objective standard)” (2 Corinthians 5:9-10).*
- **Feelism**: “How does this make me feel or do I feel like doing this?” becomes the measure of truth or obligation, therefore, eliminating objectivity, and excusing objective disobedience. This leads to the belief that anything that causes anxiety, pain, discomfort, submission, denial of feelings/self, is wrong or bad. This mindset leads to believing that if “it feels right” it must “be right”.
  - When we live according to objectivity, we will live “an emotional life”: *“To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken.” (C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves, 121)* If we live and love according to objectivity we will be sad: *“My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep Your law” (Psalm 119:136).* We will be anxious: *“And apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of anxiety for all the churches” (2 Corinthians 11:28).* We will be angry: *“Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil” (Ephesians 4:26-27).* We will be joyful: *“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say rejoice” (Philippians 4:4).* But all of our emotions and feelings must operate according to objectivity and submit to God: *“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:6-7).*

(continued →)

**Worship:** Nothing But The Blood (Various Artists)

Your Love Oh Lord (Third Day)

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery (Matt Boswell)

**Closing Song:** Everlasting God (Sovereign Grace Music)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- **\*\*\*Living according to objectivity is not the absence of emotion. It is the ability to be emotional while simultaneously remaining under and operating according to God’s objective order, authority, and moral standard by being fully dependent on His grace and mercy. “Saying, ‘Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done. And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground” (Luke 22:42-44).**
- **Love for God is expressed in dying to my old desires and operating according to my new desires: “But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24). “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you not only look to your own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Philippians 2:3-4).**

Account Balance: \$28,856.44 April Balance: \$32,154.88	Weekly Budget: \$3,157
Total Giving: May 1	\$4,426
Total Giving: May 8	\$3,516
Total Giving: May 15	\$3,272
Total Giving: May 22	\$4,199.68
Total Giving: May 29	\$1,455

**Announcements:**

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of June we are collecting monetary donations for HeartCry. For more information about HeartCry and what they do, please see the board in the lobby. There is a container on the back table to put your monetary donations in. There is also information on the container about how to give online.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.