

What does it mean that truth is objective (i.e. "really real")? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the difference between deciding and discerning? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is our duty in regards to the truth? \_\_\_\_\_

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To the best of your ability, do you practice the precepts of the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

Which one do you find the hardest to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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If you are not faithfully practicing the precepts of the Church at this time, will you purpose to do so from now on? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Deciding vs. Discerning in Regards to the Truth

## Decide

- To make up one's mind
- We decide something when the choice is **subjective** (i.e. when it's up to me)

## Discern

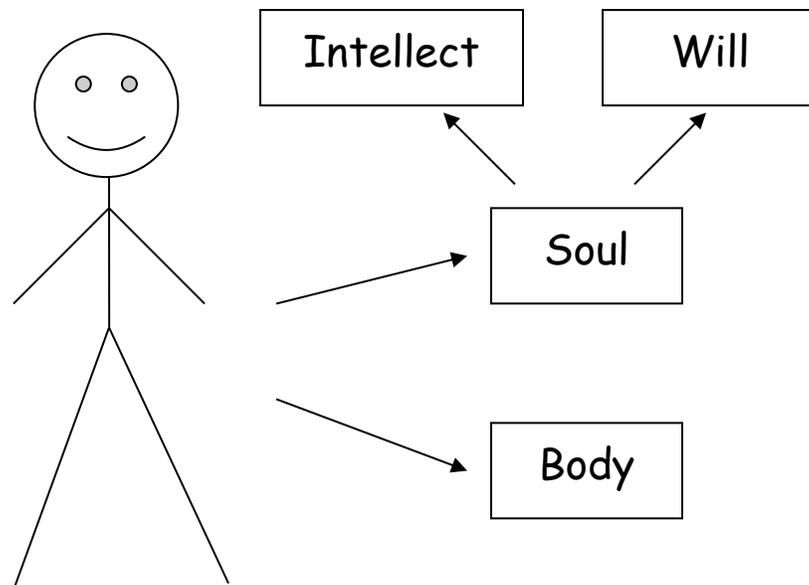
- To perceive with the eyes or intellect
- We discern something in order to understand what it **objectively** is. (i.e. it is what it is)

## Truth is Objective not Subjective

- It is reality; actuality (i.e. "what is really real")
- Something that is true is true whether we like it or not



*Man—Male and Female—Created in the image of God*



*We discern with our intellect. We decide with our will.*

*Our duty is not to decide the truth  
but to discern it,  
and once it is discerned  
to obey it.*

*Whoever knows what is right to do and fails to do it,  
for him it is sin.*

**James 4:17**

## **The Precepts of the Church** **(CCC 2042-2043, 1631)**

**First Precept**--You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.

*The six holy days of obligation are:*

- 1. January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*
- 2. Ascension Thursday (the Sixth Week of Easter)*
- 3. August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 4. November 1, the solemnity of All Saints*
- 5. December 8, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*
- 6. December 25, the solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Second Precept**--You shall confess your sins at least once a year.

**Third Precept**--You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.

**Fourth Precept**--You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.

**Fifth Precept**--You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

**Sixth Precept**--You shall observe the marriage laws of the Church. (CCC 1631)