**MISSION|GROUPS**
*Connect to Christ ~ Connect to Community*

| **Series** How Can You Be Sure? |
| **Passage** 1 John 2:1-11 |
| **Title** How can you be sure? (Part 2) |
| **Speaker:** Pastor David Menard – 4/29/2018 |

**Discussion Starter** – What are some of the benefits you see in looking at yourself in light of these character tests of having a real relationship with God?

## Real Faith and Sin (1 John 2:1-2)

- What do you think was John's primary purpose for this letter and how is this expressed in the way he addresses the readers to the topic of sin in verse 1a?

- Read Galatians 2:16 and James 2:14-17. Describe in your own words the truths you see revealed about real faith and the effect it has on our lives with regard to sin.

- We know that John does not expect that we are able to be completely without sin, given his statement in 1 John 1:8. John now states that if anyone does sin, we have an advocate. Explain the importance of the advocate's role and what He does on our behalf.

- What role does Satan have in this exchange between the Advocate and the Father according to Revelation 12:10? Explain the significance and scope of Jesus' role in being the propitiation for our sins.

## Character Tests of a Real Relationship with God (1 John 2:3-11)

- Read 1 John 2:3-5. How is claiming to know God validated by our obeying Jesus? Read Hebrews 12:1-11. Describe the additional insights these verses contain about having a real relationship with God.

- John says if we say we abide in Christ then our walk should reflect Him. Read John 15:4-5. Discuss what these verses mean to you and what abiding and reflecting Christ looks like as you walk out your Christian life.

- Read 1 John 2:7-11. Why do you think John says he is writing no new commandment but an old commandment which they know? What then is the new commandment John writes about? Read John 13:34-35, Colossians 3:12-14. Matthew 18:21-22. What insights can we gain from these verses on how important it is to forgive others?

- What is the impact on our lives if we are not able to forgive others? Conversely, what are the blessings we get if we do forgive others?