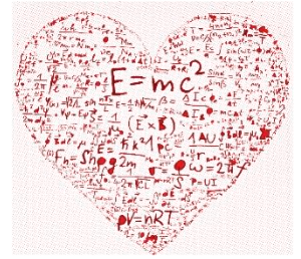


# DEMONSTRATE THE PROOF



## Small Group Discussion

### Bad News, Good News

1 John 1.1-2.2

#### Getting Started

- Can you think of a story of someone at work or in your life who consistently failed to “walk the walk” even though they “talked the talk?”
- How did that effect your level of confidence in that person as time went by?

#### Static Questions

- **What was the passage about?**
  - Note the key details (Who, What, When, Where, Why, etc.)
  - Pay attention to the main *points* of the passage.
- **What did you learn?**
  - What did the passage reveal about God? About people?
  - Was there a promise or command or a warning?
  - What is the big idea of the passage?
  - What lessons do you see?
- **How will you apply it?**
  - How does this passage relate to your life right now?
  - What change in your thinking or behavior is needed to align with the truths in this message?
  - How should you respond based on what you learned?

#### From the Teaching this Morning

- What have you seen, touched, and heard regarding the Word of life? What difference has that made in your life? How do you “declare” it?
- It’s interesting that John’s emphasis on the result of confession is a renewed fellowship with one another before he addresses our renewed fellowship with God. Why do you think that is considering our sin is first and foremost an offense against God?
- John highlights the community Christians have in Christ with God and one another, the reality and deceptive power of sin among us, and the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. What is the thread that connects these three things together?

#### Application Questions

- Sin easily traps us in a cycle of self-deception from which escape is impossible without the help of the Spirit in-dwelt community of God. The problem with self-deception is we cannot recognize it. Can you think of a time in the past when a trusted friend or a significant teaching from scripture woke you up to the reality of your self-deception regarding your sin?
- If you have experienced that, what steps can you take to ensure you do not languish long in the self-deceptive cycle of sin in the future?

