**Series: 1 John – Walking in the Light**

**Today: A True or False Test**

**Text: 1 John 4:1-6**

**Because Deception Is Real, Discernment Is Vital.**

***1 John 4***

*Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

* **Not everything spiritual is from God.**

*2This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.*

*4You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

*5They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.*

*6We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spiritof truth and the spirit of falsehood.*

* **Is the Bible God’s Word or helpful advice?**
* **Essential**
* **Congregationally Important**
* **Third Level Importance**
* **Your net worth is your real worth.**
* **Follow your feelings.**
* **Historic Christianity is obsolete.**

**2 Timothy 4:3-4**

3For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

* **You are all alone.**