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**DISCUSSION GUIDE – Based on the 3-minute video at OverflowToday.com titled:
Illogical!! > “Jesus was a great teacher.”**

Featuring Josh McDowell, Author of many books including MORE THAN A CARPENTER.

Section 1

Discuss what you applied in the past seven days from the last OverflowToday show.

Read John 14:1-6. If time permits, also read John 11:25-26 and John 20:26-29.

What are some of the claims, or implied claims, that Jesus makes in these verses?

Section 2

Watch the podcast titled Illogical!! > “Jesus was a great teacher.” at <http://OverflowToday.com>

Section 3

What did you think? What stood out to you as you watched this?

What types of general views do you hear from others in person or in the media about Jesus and who he was?

The show quotes a common view of Jesus: “I believe that Jesus was a great teacher or a great moral person, but nothing more.” Before today, have statements like this struck you as somewhat logical and sensible for a non-Christian to say?

What do you think about the show’s local-professor example? Is this question and answer of “No” a fair one and why?:

“If a professor at your local university was claiming to be God, would we call him a great teacher or a great moral person?”

Did you agree or not with what the show said we might call such a professor? Can you think of other possibilities?

Do you agree that it is not an option to call Jesus merely a great moral teacher? Why or why not?

As a group, let's do a role-play of how you might talk this through with a friend. We need two volunteers to play this out. The conversational opening might be: "In my Wednesday night discussion group, we just discussed all the different views that people have of who Jesus was or was not. We are each asking several friends this week to give their opinion and next Wednesday night we are going to compare notes on what we heard. Would you mind giving your opinion on that question so I can pass it back to the group next week?"

(Ask the two volunteers to role-play an expected exchange in front of the group).

Then ask for 2 more volunteers to role-play the same issue. Keep selecting pairs of group members until everyone has practiced this).

As a debrief from the role playing we just did, let's brainstorm some ways that we might transition from explaining to our friend that his view is illogical to inviting him to consider placing his trust in Christ?

Section 4

Discuss and plan a way that group members can apply these principles this week in others' lives.

One suggestion, if needed:

Let's take the role-play we just did to a friend or two this week. Again, the conversational opening might be: "In my Wednesday night discussion group, we just discussed all the different views that people have of who Jesus was or was not. We are each asking several friends this week to give their opinion and next Wednesday night we are going to compare notes on what we heard. Would you mind giving your opinion on that question so I can pass it back to the group next week?"

Write their answer down as they tell you and thank them for giving their opinion. Whether they said Jesus is Lord or the Jesus was only a great teacher, go ahead and share this principle with them. In either event, you could transition with this statement: "In the group we watched an author on a video say that it is impossible for Jesus to have been only a great teacher. And then he gave several reasons why. It was cool. Have you ever heard of that before? Do you want to hear why he said that it was impossible?"

Meet back next week and discuss what happened.

"Lord, Liar, Lunatic" is the title of chapter 2 of Josh McDowell's book titled "MORE THAN A CARPENTER," from Tyndale House Publishers.

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