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**DISCUSSION GUIDE – Based on the 3-minute video at OverflowToday.com titled:
Tim Muehlhoff – Be counter-culture. Re. e.g. “All religions are equal.”**

Featuring Tim Muehlhoff, author of the book AUTHENTIC COMMUNICATION, from IVP Academic.

Section 1

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

Read 2nd Timothy 4:1-5.

Discuss as wide a range of applications as possible for this passage in contemporary life today.

What are situations in our present world and culture that “need” believers to be faithful in this way, and what would that look like in each case?

Section 2

Watch the podcast titled Tim Muehlhoff – Be counter-culture. Re. e.g. “All religions are equal.”

at <http://OverflowToday.com>

Section 3

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

Have you heard the term “counter-culture” much and what images come to mind when you hear that?

(Discussion leader – consider consulting Wikipedia for a popular definition).

Do you typically think of Christians as part of the counter-culture or is this a new thought?

Tim Muehlhoff writes that Christians are “resident aliens” and “counter-publics” in today’s society. How do these terms strike you as part of your world?

How many of you have seen the movie AMAZING GRACE about William Wilberforce? For those of you who have not seen it, what was your level of awareness that some Christians were an active counter-public involved in the abolition of slavery in the British Empire?

What are some counter-publics, either secular or Christian, that you see in our culture today?

Think back through the examples of counter-publics that you just named. Would any of you argue that some of the causes listed as counter-publics are, instead, now part of the mainstream or “the establishment?”

How common among people today is the belief that “All paths lead to God” or “All religions are just different paths up the mountain to the same God”?

What are aspects of this philosophy that are appealing to the ear on first hearing?

How does Muehlhoff rate the “All paths lead to God” philosophy in regards to fairness? Who does he see it as being unfair to?

What does Muehlhoff say is needed to reconcile the “All paths lead to God” view with the writings of Jesus Christ and Mohamed? Do you see other religions that this view would conflict with? (*Judaism*)

Is it logically possible for “All paths lead to God” and the claims of Jesus Christ to coexist? Does one or the other, then, need to be rejected? How about the claims of Mohamed? Claims of Judaism?

How might you present this to a friend as a “fork in the road” requiring him to reject one or the other?

What claims of Christ come to mind when considering Jesus’ contradiction of “All paths lead to God?”

John 14:6 “No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 10:8-9 “All who have come before me are thieves and robbers...whoever enters through me will be saved.”

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 each approach a friend or two this week, saying: "In my Wednesday night discussion group, we just discussed a common religious view that says, "All religions are just different paths up a mountain to the same God." 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 hold the "all paths equal" view or not, 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 the "all religions are equal paths" position is unfair and intolerant. 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 unfair?"

Meet back next week and discuss what happened.

ATTENTION OVERFLOW VIEWERS - For 2 excellent additional OverflowToday.com podcasts on this topic, with many additional points, we recommend these two shows:

ONLY ONE WAY? <http://overflowtoday.com/OverflowToday/?p=227> featuring Randy Newman.

ALL RELIGIONS LEAD TO THE SAME PLACE! <http://overflowtoday.com/OverflowToday/?p=831> featuring Greg Koukl.

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