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**DISCUSSION GUIDE – Based on the 3-minute video at OverflowToday.com titled:**

## **Non-Christian Advice on Evangelism?**

Featured is Doug Pollock, author of the book GOD SPACE, from Group Publishing.  
<http://www.godsgps.com/>

### **Section 1**

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

Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:14-17. What evangelism elements and dynamics do you see portrayed in this passage? How have you seen these played out in conversations?

### **Section 2**

Watch the podcast entitled “Non-Christian Advice on Evangelism?” at <http://OverflowToday.com>

### **Section 3**

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

Who can remember what Doug’s question was that he asks not-yet Christians? Can you repeat it?

*“I want to ask you a question. I’m trying to better understand how Christians are coming across in the culture. Have you ever had a Christian try to evangelize you, and if so, how did that make you feel?”*

How do you like the question and how do you think it would come across to someone?

Are you surprised at how often he hears what he terms a rant about evangelism? Why?

Do you think such a rant is always justified, or would it sometimes be just due to the irritation from conviction that the idea of Jesus Christ or the gospel can cause?

Was Pollock recommending not taking the initiative to move toward not-yet Christians with the gospel? Please elaborate.

He quickly mentioned some of the “ten conversation killers” or “evangelistic misdemeanors” from his book. Can any of you remember some of the catchy titles he had for those? What do you think those titles referred to?

*(Hijack the conversation. Run the stop signs. Exceed the speed limit).*

Pollock said that our friends might not be saying no to Jesus, but instead to the \_\_\_\_\_ way we are conversing with them. Do you remember what that word was, and what do you think about that thought? *(Disrespectful)*

Turn to 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:15-16. How does this passage compare to Pollock’s comments? Have you seen people or approaches that don’t match this passage? Discuss.

*Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, **16**keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. (NIV)*

How would this 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:1-2 combine with what Pollock is recommending?

*1In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: **2**Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. (NIV)*

## **Section 4**

Discuss some ways we could apply a few of these principles in the next 7 days.

One obvious suggestion:

*Go talk to two friends, co-workers, or neighbors and ask them:*

*“I want to ask you a question. I’m trying to better understand how Christians are coming across in the culture. Have you ever had a Christian try to evangelize you, and if so, how did that make you feel?”*

*Discuss his thoughts with him and either explain, apologize, or evangelize as you show respect.*

Meet back next week to report on what happened.