

## **QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION**

*The notes in the gray boxes following the questions are not intended as answers to be read aloud. They are notes to help guide and direct the discussion.*

**1. Are people you know more troubled by the ethical aspects of the Bible or the historical? Why?**

## **2. One of the participants on the video said,**

“The Bible is a wonderful text, it’s complex, a lot of things going on, some people believe it to be the truth, I myself do not.”

**Another said,**

“Jesus sacrificed himself — I’m not sure if there is evidence for that.”

**Many people say the Gospel accounts of Jesus’ life — his claims to be divine, the miracles he performed, his death on a cross, his rising from the dead — were written much later by church leaders who were trying to consolidate their power and build their movements, so they suppressed the evidence that the real Jesus was just a human teacher. How would you respond?**

### **3. Read the following objections aloud:**

**A: “The Gospels are full of contradictions.”**

**B: “The Gospels can’t be reliable accounts because they describe miracles.”**

**C: “Why should a person believe the Old Testament is true?”**

**Divide into three groups and assign one of the objections above to each group. After five minutes regroup and share your thoughts on how you would respond to the objection.**

**How would you respond to someone who felt that evolution makes biblical faith unacceptable?**

**Was there anything in the way the video discussion was conducted in terms of tone, atmosphere, attitude, mannerisms, expressions, and so on, that you might find helpful to adopt, or not, when you run your own discussion about this objection?**