Discussion Questions for Another Gospel?

1. Have you or someone close to you ever gone through “spiritual labor”? If so, how would you describe the process? The outcome?

2. Alisa describes her faith as intellectually weak and untested before she began the class with the progressive pastor (see page 5). In what ways may your faith be vulnerable to questions, doubts, or temptations?

3. As Alisa discovered, being faithful to God doesn’t mean we can never question parts of our faith tradition. As an example, she describes her unease with some altar calls. Is there anything in your religious tradition that has given you pause?

4. Deconstruction is the process of “systematically dissecting and often rejecting the beliefs you grew up with” (see page 24). In what ways can this process be healthy? Unhealthy?

5. Why do you think so many people are drawn to the progressive church?

6. In chapter 4, Alisa unpacks a number of factors that lead people to begin to question their faith: abuse within the church; doubts that are discouraged or dismissed; the moral demands of historic Christianity; misgivings about the Bible; secular philosophies like critical theory, legalism; and the problem of suffering. Which of these have affected your faith? What other factors may cause people to question their beliefs?

7. As you look around our church culture, do you think people are more likely to add to or subtract from the gospel message? Explain.

8. Do you agree that progressive Christianity is a form of what C. S. Lewis called “chronological snobbery” (see page 109)? Why or why not?

9. Have you ever had questions about the Bible that have caused you to doubt its reliability? If so, what are they? How does Alisa’s research address those questions?

10. After reading this book, what would you say to a friend who asks why we can trust the testimony of the four Gospels?