



Scenario 1: Rules of Engagement – The Suicide Bomber

(Time: 13:50-18:35)

In this scene, SPC Tim Low and others relate what happened at a Traffic Control Point when a lone female was observed walking into a Traffic Control Point that was being manned by U.S. forces. Her presence was considered highly suspicious and was reported to higher. But the Rules of Engagement (ROE) prohibited engaging her as a target without positive confirmation that she was a threat to the Soldiers and civilians present at the Traffic Control Point.

After viewing the entire media clip, process what you saw using the following questions in your small group using the following four-step method beginning with Observation. (You do not need to use all the questions listed for each step so long as the group is satisfied they have completed the step.)

OBSERVATION:

- 1) What happened?
- 2) What did you hear SPC Tim Low saying?
- 3) What did you hear others saying?
- 4) What did the chaplain say and do?
- 5) What topics did you hear mentioned by those who were interviewed?
- 6) What did you see?



- 7) Describe what occurred?
- 8) What religious things did you observe?

CORRELATION:

- 1) Given your own combat experience, do you see any correlation with what you may have experienced or what others may have experienced?
- 2) Were there any topics that particularly connected with you? How so?
- 3) How do Soldiers deal with the loss of their comrades?
- 4) How do Soldiers deal with their sense of guilt and shame?
- 5) Do you sense any connection with the feelings of responsibility SPC Low expressed?

INTERPRETATION:

- 1) What particular issues do you think SPC Low and others may be experiencing?
- 2) What was the dilemma the Soldiers faced?
- 3) How do think it would have been if they had decided differently?
- 4) Suppose the young girl was not armed with a bomb. How would that be for you or others?
- 5) Did they make the right call?
- 6) SPC Low felt responsible for the deaths? Do you think he was responsible? Why? Why not?

- 7) SPC Low felt responsible for the deaths? Do you think he was responsible? Why? Why not?

APPLICATION:

- 1) How can you help Soldiers who struggle with decisions that are made within constrained or unconstrained "Rules of Engagement"?
- 2) How can you help Soldiers who are suffering with grief and guilt issues?
- 3) How can you lead a Soldier, suffering with loss, guilt, grief and shame, to a discussion about God or their own vulnerability or mortality?
- 4) How do we deal with suffering or the presence of evil? Consider the use of children as combatants? Consider the ethical issues of deciding to shoot or not to shoot?
- 5) How can we prepare Soldiers for the brutality of the modern day battlefield?
- 6) How do we address our own mortality? Issues of trust? Confidence in our leadership? Suffering and pain on the battlefield?