

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- In your own words how do you describe the role of the chaplain?
- How do men talk about their faith differently than women?  
From a man's perspective, what comments made by a chaplain struck you in particular?
- Some men were almost in tears talking about their experiences – is that somehow compromising to their manhood or revealing of their human side?
- What are some challenges you noticed about providing spiritual care to those who come from a different faith tradition than your own?
- How has viewing these chaplain stories impacted your idea of how God is active in the world today?
- Clearly Chaplains are trained to be good listeners -- but what other qualities do they possess that helps them do their job well?
- Chaplains are often with people who are suffering – sometimes it is physical suffering, always it is emotional suffering. What has been your own experience of being with people who are suffering? What have you come to understand about them and yourself?
- In viewing the film or segment – did anything surprise you?
- Each chaplain has their own faith or spiritual tradition. What does it mean to be an interfaith chaplain in a public setting like a hospital, prison, etc?
- What do you see are some of the greatest rewards of chaplaincy?  
What are some of the greatest challenges?
- Is it the chaplain's role to be an advocate for the people they care for against their institution? How do they find an effective balance between working **FOR** the institution and working **WITH** those on the front lines they serve? Give an example of a story you saw where the chaplain had to find a balance. Have you felt this conflict of interest in your job/workplace and your beliefs?"
- We see chaplains in varying roles but what do you see that they share in common?
- How does the role of a chaplain change based on the environment where they work?  
What might that say for the overall nature and scope of ministry?
- The training for a professional chaplain can be as much as eight years. Do they need to be professionally trained?

- Are there moral or ethical standards that should guide the work of a chaplain?  
If so, what are they and who should decide those standards?
- Is it more important that a chaplain be familiar with and versed in the demands of their particular work environment or in the overall methodology of spiritual care? And why?
- What was your understanding of Chaplains before watching the film?  
Has it changed? If so, how?
- How do you imagine chaplaincy developed from early days when it was primarily military or hospital chaplaincy to the broader profession we see now?
- How do you think chaplains view their work? How do they see it from their own perspective?