

# Special Forces: Day Four

## Basic Training: Unit One

### Overt Tactics

#### Called to be Peacemakers

Have you ever wondered what your purpose or calling in life is? I know I have. All through high school and some college (before money dried up), I had goals of some sort and thought I knew what I wanted to do with my life. I joined the Army to jump out of perfectly good airplanes and thought that would be it. A Special Forces recruiter showed up at basic training one day and then I knew I had found my calling! Then, some years later, God invaded my heart with his love, called me back to himself and I was wondering all over again. There seemed to be more questions than ever.

Well, I don't have all the answers but I have learned to trust what I do know. If the specific answers I want don't seem to be there, I can apply a principle. The Army is full of principles - principles of war, principles of leadership, and on and on. God has also given us key principles through the scripture. For instance, I know that if I have accepted Christ as my Savior and Lord I am a new creation. I have a fresh start! I can forget the junk I left behind and start over. But that's not all, my friend!

#### Key Verse:

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!  
<sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." 2  
Corinthians 5:17-20a (NIV)*

What is awesome to me is the principle of reconciliation. God sent his own Son to live a perfect life and be a sacrifice for Dan Cartwright's (and your) sinful nature. And then he gave us 'the ministry of reconciliation'. After God brings us home he wants us to somehow be instrumental in showing others the way home. That is AWESOME!

#### So What!

I don't know about you, but realizing what God wanted me to be sure took off a load of stress. I know that no matter what my particular station or situation in life is, I've been appointed to an ambassadorship with a divine purpose, to help others come home. While I live and breathe, whether I am a leader or a follower (Private, Sergeant Major, Lieutenant or General) my purpose in life doesn't change. I don't have to get wrapped up running after promotions, prestige, or whatever the producers of motivational tapes and infomercials consider 'real success'. Instead, God says he wants me to just be his representative wherever I live or whatever my circumstances.

I believe this is God's calling for all of his children. We are called to be ambassadors for Christ. This doesn't mean placing 'Honk if you Jesus' bumper stickers on our cars or wearing WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) stuff. Then everyone's watching you like a hawk, just waiting for you to

be guilty of non-Christian behavior. We can never be perfect and God doesn't expect perfection. However, we can learn from his Word, let his Spirit and love fill us and spread it around as we go about our daily walk. The rest will take care of itself. Then we can agree with one of Christ's greatest ambassadors, the apostle Paul:

*"...for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances." Philippians 4:11 (NIV)*