Phone call with Sossenheimer – Sossenheimer insists they get lunch.

Check in with Johnson and Jefferson. They are talking to a contractor about their rocket, he is insisting that none of the internal controls need to work. The seed of skepticism about the morality of the mission is planted.

At lunch with Sossenheimer, Simon is not very sure about going, feels deep down he is being used. “Wouldn’t you want a chance to meet your God, this mission isn’t about science, it’s about truth” Sossenheimer tells him. Simon agrees, Sossenheimer hands him a ticket to Alabama (where he will train at the Marshall Space Flight Center – note this is also where the monkeys trained).

Simon comes home, meets Tammy, Lloyd’s wife who is a TV agent. The mission was supposed to be confidential at this point in the game. Terry convinces Simon to go on TV with it.

Johnson and Jefferson see Global Hawk photos of Russia preparing a rocket of their own – they have to move up their launch date which means throwing safety tests to the wind. They were already hesitant of the morals of this mission and now that they feel that Simons life is being put in considerable danger (after all, their last rocket did fail spectacularly), they feel the need to let the public in on the secret mission. This is in turn spurred on by a knowing nod from Golf who feels similarly.

Golf goes to visit Simon. She doesn’t like what she sees. The training is already halfway complete and all they’re teaching him is how to strap in and flip some nobs when prompted. She was originally for this mission when it was still hypothetical but now, seeing it in the flesh, she finds herself unsettled. She calls Sossenheimer, telling him her concerns, and suggesting they tell Simon more about the mission so he can really understand what’s going on – he must be confused by the simplicity of his training.

This is all he’s been doing.

“Yes, ma’am.”

“Does he ever voice concern, or ask questions.”

“No, that’s not really like him. Although once he did ask when things would get hard.” Settling her eyes on the now closed capsule. “I can’t get the sense he isn’t taking things seriously yet.

Simon goes to another Christian meeting. Word has yet to get out he is going to fly. He tells Veronica he doesn’t like it how Luke touches her. She says they’re in love. This makes him quite depressed – he realizes he was in love with her (even though he might not understand it).

He goes on TV, (note this is significant – a person with low IQ has never been on TV) they press him about the nature of his mission. A prominent scientist comes out to speak with him. Says the mission is for profit and that alone. He counters that by saying it is about truth and God will protect him.