

**MOVIE: THE INCREDIBLES**

**\*\* Please read the Introduction to Large Group Studies in order to best utilize this material**

**Sub Topic theme:**

CHAIN OF COMMAND:  
what's my role

**Lesson objective:**

To recognize and appreciate that each person plays an important role in the family. As unique individuals, we have various gifts, talents, abilities, and personalities – all of which are needed to make our family strong and resilient (especially when someone is missing). Order and structure really do assist those differences to serve the overall family and others!

**Intro to the Movie:***The Incredibles*

Mr. Incredible (A.K.A. Bob Parr), and his wife Helen (A.K.A. Elastigirl), are the world's greatest famous crime-fighting superheroes in Metroville. Saving people and battling evil on a daily basis was the normal experiences of their lives. But fifteen years later, they have been forced to adopt civilian identities and retreat to the suburbs where they have no choice but to retire from being superheroes and force to live a "normal life" with their three children Violet, Dash and Jack-Jack (all who were secretly born with superpowers). Itching to get back into action, Bob gets his chance when a mysterious communication summons him to a remote island for a top-secret assignment. While his superpowers are great, and so are those of his wife, it becomes clear that the kids have super powers that are needed to accomplish the family goal. He soon discovers that it will take a 'super family effort' to rescue the world from total destruction where each family member has an important role to play!

(The 3D lenses) Look for themes such as serving humankind, willingness to face danger, fighting for purposes of good, awareness of personal strengths and abilities. There are also lessons on pride and trying to do something alone versus operating together. Once family members understand their own powers and that of family members, then they can appreciate each other and work together for the common

good! It ends up that everybody wins, and they accomplished much more as a family team than any of them could have achieved alone.

### Discussion Group Questions:

1. If **you** were cast in this movie, which of the main characters would you rather be and why?
2. What were the super powers within the family? Who do you think used theirs the best and why?
3. What was the point where you think things began to come together for the family? What tasks were accomplished by using the super powers?
4. Give some examples of ways that you think the family grew. What lessons seemed to be learned and by whom?
5. How do you think the family structure and discipline played a part in their failure and/or success?

### Group input:

Leader-solicited responses from the large group on reactions to some of the questions

Gathering of ideas and themes recognized in the discussion groups with a focus on guiding the audience toward the main objective: *Recognizing and appreciating that each person plays an important role in the family. As unique individuals, we have various gifts, talents, abilities, and personalities – all of which are needed to make our family strong and resilient (especially when someone is missing). Order and structure really do assist those differences to serve the overall family and others!*

### Bullet Objective:

*Put this summary section in your own words, but here are some ideas you can use:*

Military families are usually pretty structured units. Sometimes, especially due to deployments, there is a felt need to have everything in its place before the military

member leaves. Keeping the order seems to loom large and sometimes even becomes the most important thing.

In the midst of that structure as a military teen, you can feel pretty helpless and sometimes even useless. “What is my role in this family?” is a great question and one that does need answering. Where do your gifts and abilities fit in? Does the family need you? All these questions can surface because of the chain of command that is set up in families.

Often we might feel like a chain of command is just a structure to tell us what to do, but more likely a good chain of command will help provide order where each person’s contribution can be made and appreciated.

The Scriptures give us an interesting look at how the many parts make up the whole. In 1 Corinthians 12, the analogy used is that of a body. The body analogy can be used to describe a family unit as well, especially as we’ve been talking about our roles in our families. The Bible says:

<sup>14</sup> For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts. <sup>15</sup> If the foot were to say, “Because I am not a hand, I don’t belong to the body,” that would not keep it from being a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear were to say, “Because I am not an eye, I don’t belong to the body,” that would not keep it from being a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were just an eye, how could it hear? And if it were only an ear, how could it smell? <sup>18</sup> As it is, however, God put every different part in the body just as he wanted it to be. <sup>19</sup> There would not be a body if it were all only one part! <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts but one body. <sup>21</sup> So then, the eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” Nor can the head say to the feet, “Well, I don’t need you!” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, we cannot do without the parts of the body that seem to be weaker; <sup>23</sup> and those parts that we think aren’t worth very much are the ones which we treat with greater care; while the parts of the body which don’t look very nice are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup> which the more beautiful parts do not need. God himself has put the body together in such a way as to give greater honor to those parts that need it. <sup>25</sup> And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

### Challenge:

1. Some time this week, write down what you think you have that contributes to the family. It could be anything, like having a cool head in arguments, or the ability to navigate the internet, or maybe you like to serve when no one is looking – whatever it is, write it down. Then talk about how you see that fitting in to your family like the ‘body’ imagery in Scripture.

2. In relationship to your family (as a body) who plays what roles in your family? Who is the head, the foot, the eye, etc. Draw an actual picture of a body and label who is what from your family. Is some part missing? Does some part feel insignificant? Try discussing this with your family when you're together and see how they respond. You might discover some glaring omissions that someone needs to fill.

*Pray for God's purpose and power to put it into action and transform lives. Remind them of the online personal journey at ReZilient Life for further involvement with this topic of a family Chain of Command.*