

Building



The Incredible Family

Building



The Incredible Family



Different but Same



There is obvious tension amongst the family

There are issues that need to be discussed

There seems to be a generation gap

Perhaps Mom and Dad are not on the same page

What should lead to conversation leads to arguments

You end up eating your dinner in silence

Maybe you flip on the TV for some distraction

In a Family dynamic we have all been there



How About in the Church



Things go south

Feelings are hurt

Nobody really wants to deal with the conflict

We try our best to push forward

Maybe even "get over it"

But it creates tension as we come around the table

At some point the pressure builds to a point that everything explodes



Lack of Communication



A process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs, or behavior

The Symptoms: Yelling, Holding grudges, Keeping secrets, Blaming, Giving the silent treatment, Using ultimatums or threats, Labeling someone bad instead of the behavior and Bringing harm.

Improper communication leads to false Assumptions, Jumping to conclusions, Worrying, Fear and Concern, Stress, Gossip and Lying, Division and Separation



Incredible Communication



Incredible Communication



When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

James 3:3-6



Incredible Power



We often forget just how powerful our words are

Stick and stones can break bones, but words can crush a spirit

Once spoken they can never be reclaimed

Once heard they can never be forgotten



Words of Wisdom About Your Words!



Jesus Warning



But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.

Matthew 12:36

Crosswalk.com

“Family Communication God's Way”



6 Principals of Building Incredible Communication





Incredibly Patience



Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2

This is not an episode of the Brady Bunch where major family issues can be solved in 20 minutes or less

Communication takes time

When Jesus outlined conflict resolution in Matthew 18, he mentioned multiple steps of multiple sessions



Incredibly Truthful



Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15

Don't: Exaggerate issues

Don't skirt around the issues

Don't combine issues

And don't lie to cover up issues

Honesty with Yourself.... Then with others



Incredibly Intentional



So, I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Ephesians 4:17-19



Incredibly Aware



“In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.

Ephesians 4:26

There is nothing wrong with being angry

Jesus got angry, in fact he got downright indignant

Here is the catch, at what point have I gone past angry and become abusive?

At what point have my words turned from problem solving to proving a point



Incredibly Constructive



Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is **helpful** for **building** others up according to **their needs**, that it may **benefit** those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29

Communication is never about the message you send, it's always about how the sender receives and perceives that message



Incredibly Compassionate & Forgiving



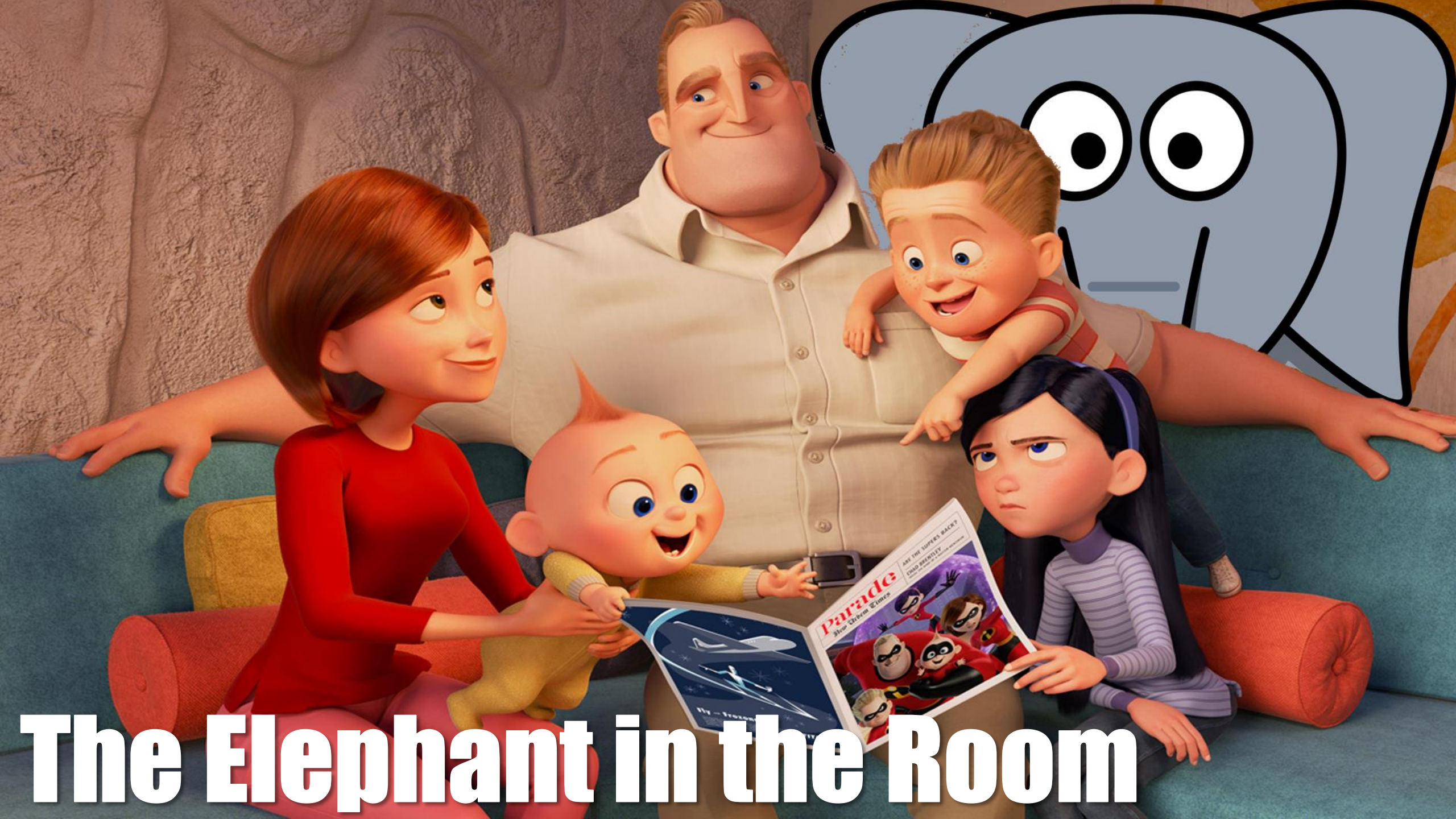
Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31-32

Compassion is the seed of grace

Get Rid of... Bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, slander, and malice

Put on Kindness, Compassion and Forgiveness



The Elephant in the Room