

# MIRACLE

Filled with exhilarating nonstop hockey action and heart-racing suspense, it's the inspiring true story behind one of the greatest moments in sports history – the 1980 United States ice hockey team's triumphant Olympic victory against the Soviet Union. Kurt Russell give a brilliant performance as the dynamic and determined coach Herb Brooks, who had an impossible dream – beat the seemingly unbeatable Soviets at their own game. Starting with a handpicked group of twenty-six undisciplined kids, Brooks coached them to play like they never played before, and turned twenty of them into a team that believed they could achieve the unachievable – and in the process, united a nation with a new feeling of hope.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Directions: Type out - in complete sentences - your response to the discussion questions below. Remember to be clear, concise and complete with your response. Quality verse quantity is very important.

- 1) About 14 minutes into the movie – Assistant Coach Craig Patrick looks at the final roster Coach Brooks put together on just the first day of what is supposed to be weeklong tryouts and says, "You're kidding' me, right?...You're missing the best players." Coach Brooks, who obviously knows what he wants in a team, replies, *"I'm not looking for the best players, I'm look-in' for the right players."* What does he mean by that statement? (Focus on the health term Character)
- 2) State the short-term and long-term goals of Coach Brooks and the USA Olympic Hockey Team. How did their own goals unite a nation and give us hope as well? (Focus on the health term Goal Setting)
- 3) Coach Brooks used some very unusual and interesting strategies to help the team achieve their goals. Discuss five of his methods and what they accomplished. (Focus on the health term Action Plan)
- 4) List at least five roadblocks or obstacles Coach Brooks and the USA Olympic Hockey Team had to overcome in becoming a team and winning an Olympic Medal. How have obstacles interfered with pursuit of your own goals? (Focus on the health terms Roadblocks and Obstacles)
- 5) Our true character and resilience is seen when we are faced with a big challenge. How does the USA Olympic Hockey Team show perseverance when dealing with adversity? Site at least 2 athletes, the adversity they faced and how they dealt with it. How have you dealt with adversity in your own life? (Focus on the health terms Resilience, Perseverance and Adversity)