



The Six Superpowers of Military Superspouses

Taken from "I'm a Military Wife - What's Your Superpower?" by Michelle Cuthrell

 Superpower 1: The ability to think like a **VICTOR**, not a **VICTIM**

 Superpower 2: The ability to **CHOOSE** joy

 Superpower 3: The ability to **SERVE** in response to your need to **BE** served

 Superpower 4: The ability to laugh

 Superpower 5: The ability to find **OPPORTUNITIES** in the midst of **OBSTACLES**



Superpower 6

In the military, "6" is a very special number. Although it might be easy to assume that an important number like "1" would be the designation assigned to a high-level officer or an important official in the field, the commander of any company/troop, battalion/squadron, brigade/regiment, division or corp uses the radio call sign "6." Some service members even jokingly refer to their spouses as "Household 6" - the commander of the household while the service member serves his or her country. Number 6, then, is the person who steers the ship, the one who commands the troops, the one who guides, directs, informs and LEADS.

Number 6 is the one in charge.

That's why Superpower 6, although it comes after the other five, is the MOST important - because it clarifies the identity of the superspouse's COMMANDER.

 **Superpower 6:** The ability to trust Jesus Christ to be the FULL COMMANDER of life - both inside and outside the military.

Military life outside the STRENGTH, guidance, love, leading, patience, forgiveness, lordship and GRACE of Jesus Christ isn't just hard - it's downright exhausting! STRIVING every day to do everything I'm called to do in this life on my own strength and under my own self-directed command is overwhelming! Most of the time, I don't even know where to start to get my tired, overscheduled, often-alone booty in gear!

And harnessing the other five superpowers daily on my own strength and through my own very weak sheer will? Flat out impossible.

On my OWN strength, I CANNOT daily employ:

Superpower 1: The ability to think like a VICTOR, not a VICTIM

Superpower 2: The ability to CHOOSE joy

Superpower 3: The ability to serve in response to my need to BE served

Superpower 4: The ability to LAUGH

Superpower 5: The ability to find opportunities in the midst of obstacles

Because I'm human! Because I'm sinful! Because frankly, after the first seven missed anniversaries and the fifth trip to the emergency room in the middle of the night the same day the toilet floods, the 2 year old paints the walls with feces and the engine dies on the vehicle that worked just fine the day *before* hubby deployed for Sandbox Trip No. 5, I have no will or energy to choose joy! Joy looks a lot better in the form of a box of Godiva I can eat locked in a silent bathroom without emerging for the next 11 months than it does as a real-to-life illustration of a CHOICE DESPITE MY CIRCUMSTANCES!



But when I just *can't*, God just *can*. When I don't have the *will*, HE reminds me that he **ALREADY** provided a *way*. When I don't have the *energy*, HE provides the *strength*. And when I have failed and failed and failed again at making the most of this military life, He loves. He forgives. He gives grace. He gives hope for a new day. Because ultimately, it's not about what I **DO** as a military spouse ... it's about what God has already done **FOR** me.

These superpowers are all **FRUITS** of a relationship first with Him. They flow **OUT** of the fact that God already loved me first. He already sacrificed His son for me first. He already **MADE A WAY** for me first. And **HE** is the one who provides the **STRENGTH** each day to execute these superpowers in a way that will serve and bless others.

None of us are superspouses because we are just super human beings. (Keep it real – I am just one **HOT MESS** without **JESUS!**) But we **GET** to be superspouses **BECAUSE** of the **SUPERNATURAL** love, strength, grace, patience and forgiveness that our **COMMANDER** offers us each and every day ... when we choose to put our hope and trust in Him!

When He is the commander of our lives – when we give Him access to be our Lord and Savior – HE is the one who equips us for this life! Who leads us through this life! Who offers us these opportunities to grow and learn and serve and bless others along the way.

Who better than **HIM** to **LEAD** us through the life He designed for us?

When I go to battle – and in this military life, much of the battle doesn't take place on the field – it takes place in our hearts, in our homes, for our families, for some plain old sanity – I want a commander who **KNOWS** the field! One who has knowledge and insight that I don't have! One who is consistent and leads the same yesterday, today and always! One who has integrity, who is trustworthy, who is reliable, who is dependable, who is **SACRIFICALLY LOVING!** I want a commander who is willing to lay down his life for my freedom!

And that's **EXACTLY** what I have in my God.

I have a commander who looked down on the battle field of human existence and saw that we humans, in our sin, just couldn't cut it. That no matter how hard we tried or how many regulations we put into place to keep us "good," we just couldn't make it.

Because he's a just God, He knows that the wages of sin have to be death. Sin must be paid for, or God wouldn't be a just God. And if we were going to keep on sinning (and throwing deployment pity parties), someone needed to pay the price for our sin.

And so He sent one into battle in our place – His one and only son – a man He knew must be sacrificed in battle for the sake of all those who could **LIVE** through His blood.



He cared enough about even **THIS PARTICULAR SOLDIER** that He sent His one and only son into the battle in my place. So that the battle is no longer mine! The battle is **HIS!** And it's already been fought and won! I no longer have to strive every day on my own strength to attain perfection and "be good" at military life! I get to rest in the **GRACE** of Jesus Christ! I no longer have to live by laws and rules and regulations and premises to make me "good." I get to walk a daily life of joy filled with the love and hope I have in Jesus! I get the privilege and freedom of walking out this military life with joy because **HE** has already fought my battles for me! I no longer have to "do" - I now get to "rest" in His grace! And enjoy the **FRUIT** of that grace ... one of those being love for others.

I have a commander who loves me enough to lead me daily. Forgive me daily. Commune with me daily. Teach me how to glorify Him daily.

If your commander – the person or thing that drives you – is anything less reliable, less trustworthy, less relational, less dependable, less sacrificially loving, less wise, less all-knowing, less caring than Jesus Christ – you've settled for a second-rate commander in your life. One who can't save you from any of life's long-term battles. The commander of "approval from others" can't. The commander of "fear" can't. The commanders of "success," "achievement" and "acceptance" all fall gravely short.

The only commander who already **WON** the battle is the same commander who is the same yesterday, today and always. And His grace for my battlefield mistakes, His strength in the face of my weakness, His **VICTORY** in the face of my human error and defeat, means that I can do all things **THROUGH HIM**. I get to be super in this life **THROUGH THE SUPERNATURAL STRENGTH OF THE ONE WHO ALREADY GAVE ME VICTORY**.

And when **HE** is my commander, the **FRUIT** in my life comes in the form of the first five superpowers: victory, joy, service, laughter and opportunities to bless and love others ... without the weariness of trying to **OBTAIN** those things on my own strength.

These abilities, after all, **ALL FIVE** come from Him in the first place. Fabricated on my own strength, they last minutes. Maybe hours. Possibly half a day. But definitely not a military career. Definitely not a lifetime.

As fruits of a relationship with Jesus in my life, they last forever.

Today, as you don your cape, don't just try in your human effort and with your best attitude adjustment to love, serve and be joyful. First, put yourself under the leadership of the greatest Commander of all time. Then watch as **HE** gives you the ability to fly, the desire to fight and the **HEART** that desires to sacrificially love and serve others. With His **SUPER** on your **NATURAL**, your superhero days get to impact not only your family, but your community, your city and your world – all for **HIS GLORY**.

