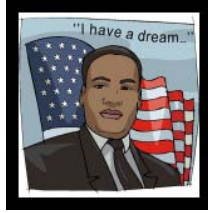


# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## THE EARLY YEARS



**(1929-1968)**

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was one of three children born to Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta King. His father was the minister of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. His grandfather had also been the minister of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Martin's early years were filled with his education, his family, and church activities. The most important lesson Martin and his siblings learned was to treat people with respect.

Martin's family nicknamed him "M.L." He loved reading, and read as many books as possible. He was a good student, and was granted early admission to Morehouse College, from which he graduated in 1948. Martin decided to become a minister, and attended Crozer Theological Seminary. He graduated from Crozer in 1951. Dr. King met Coretta Scott while earning his doctorate degree from Boston University. Coretta and Martin were married in 1953. Martin completed his doctorate degree in 1955. Dr. and Mrs. King moved to Montgomery, Alabama, and he became the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

Dr. King became involved with the civil rights movement when Rosa Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955. Mrs. Parks was arrested because she refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man. Dr. King and other civil rights leaders felt a protest was needed. A boycott of the bus company lasted 381 days. The boycott ended when the United States Supreme Court ruled that segregation on buses was illegal. This boycott successfully demonstrated that this style of peaceful protest could bring change.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**THE EARLY YEARS**

**ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:**

1. The most important lesson Dr. King was taught by his parents was

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2. Why did the boycott of the Montgomery Bus Company end?

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3. Why did the boycott of the Montgomery Bus Company begin?

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4. Dr. King met Coretta Scott \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Dr. King studied to become a minister at \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Dr. and Mrs. King moved to Montgomery, Alabama when \_\_\_\_\_

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# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT



Dr. King became more involved with the civil rights movement after the Supreme Court's decision that bus segregation was illegal. Doors had been opened for blacks in America. There were still many other issues to be addressed. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference was formed in 1957 to address the issues facing blacks in America. Dr. King was elected as the president of this conference. Under Dr. King's leadership, a mass march of 37,000 people was held in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. on May 17, 1957. Dr. King became the leader of the civil rights movement in America as a result of this march. The United States Congress created a Civil Rights Commission in September 1957. The Department of Justice created the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice to investigate voting irregularities.

Dr. King went to many cities and towns to speak. His message was that all people have the right to equal treatment under the law. Dr. King wrote his first book, *Stride Toward Freedom*. The book was a success. Dr. King was signing copies of his book in Harlem, New York, when a black woman plunged a knife into his chest. He recovered from the attack and the woman was declared insane.

In 1959, Dr. and Mrs. King visited India, the homeland of Mohandas Gandhi. Dr. King studied Gandhi's principle of nonviolence. He wanted to use this principle in the social protest in America. Dr. King and Mrs. King returned to Atlanta, where he shared pastoral duties with his father at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

As protests in America continued, Dr. King was arrested thirty times for leading demonstrations and marches. Police often used water hoses on demonstrators. Television cameras filmed many of the marches, including the police actions, and the American people became aware of the brutality that blacks were enduring in order to make changes in America. Many Americans were very unhappy and ashamed of how the police reacted to the demonstrations.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

**ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:**

1. Dr. King became the leader of the civil rights movement in America as a result of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. writing his first book
  - b. his trip to India
  - c. the 1957 march in Washington, D.C.
  - d. the Civil Rights Commission
  
2. Dr. King studied Gandhi's teachings of \_\_\_\_\_ during his trip to India.
  - a. violence
  - b. nonviolence
  - c. blacks
  - d. civil rights
  
3. Dr. King was elected president of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the Civil Rights Commission
  - b. the Department of Justice
  - c. the Southern Christian Leadership Conference
  - d. none of these
  
4. Dr. King was often arrested during \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. church services
  - b. marches
  - c. demonstrations
  - d. both b and c
  
5. The word *nonviolence* means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. peaceful
  - b. to protest
  - c. to march
  - d. to lead

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. THE LATER YEARS



August 28, 1963 was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation Act, which freed the slaves. More than 200,000 people gathered in the front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. It was a peaceful gathering and was made up of blacks and whites, young and old. It was at this gathering that Dr. King delivered his famous *I Have A Dream* speech. This speech changed the way many Americans felt about the civil rights movement.

Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his work with the civil rights movement. His contributions toward peace were recognized by the world. The \$54,000 prize was divided among various civil rights organizations to help them continue their work. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act into law. It stated that no American could be discriminated against on the basis of their race, color, or national origin.

Dr. King continued to participate in marches and demonstrations around the country. He spoke out about civil rights and the rights of the underprivileged. He joined the causes of various groups of Americans when he felt their civil rights had been violated.

In April 1968, Dr. King travelled to Memphis, Tennessee, to help striking sanitation workers. On April 4, 1968, Dr. King gave his last speech. Dr. King was shot and killed as he stood on a hotel balcony. America was saddened by his death. His funeral was held in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 9, 1968, at Ebenezer Baptist Church. It was a day of national mourning in America, and flags were flown at half-mast. Dr. King was buried in Atlanta, Georgia.

## **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. THE LATER YEARS**

### **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:**

1. After Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the prize money was divided among civil rights organizations
  - b. he gave his famous *I Have a Dream* speech
  - c. he was appointed as the president of Moorehouse College
  - d. Both a and b
  
2. The *I Have A Dream* speech was given \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. on the steps of the White House
  - b. before the United States Congress on April 28, 1963
  - c. on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation Act
  - d. none of these
  
3. April 9, 1968 was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the date of the *I Have A Dream* speech
  - b. a national day of mourning in America
  - c. the date of Dr. King's Nobel Peace Prize speech
  - d. the date of Dr. King's death
  
4. A synonym for the word *mourning* is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. speech
  - b. acceptance
  - c. grief
  - d. travel
  
5. Which of the following is NOT true?
  - a. Dr. King is buried in Atlanta, Georgia.
  - b. Dr. King was shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee.
  - c. Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* speech was given in Washington, D.C.
  - d. Dr. King's fight for civil rights ended with the signing of the Civil Rights Act.



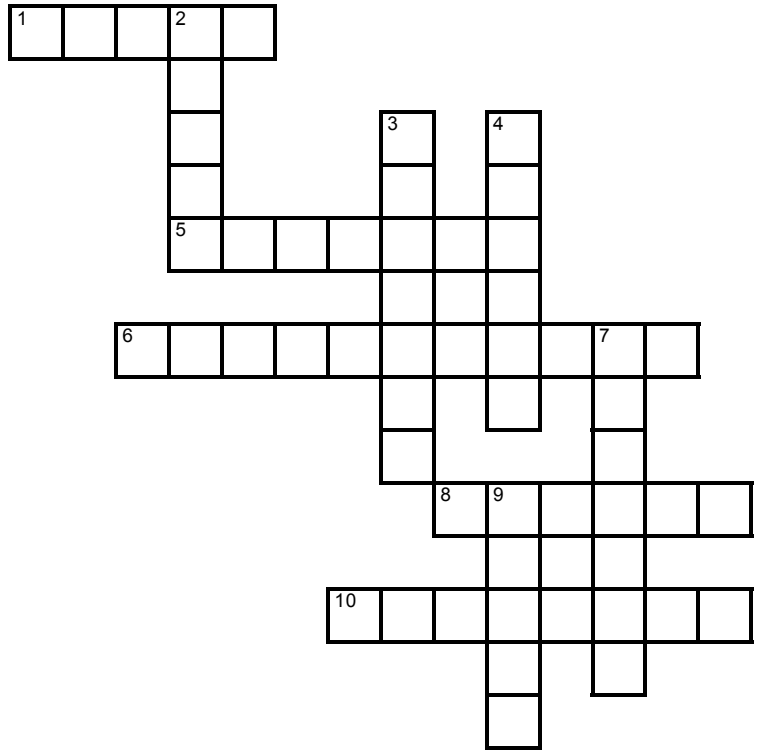
# DR. KING WORD SEARCH



N O I T A N I M I R C S I D K  
 L I V I C C C A N D O H G E Y  
 H C R A M W A S H I N G T O N  
 R O H T U A T L A N T A A R C  
 C E M O N T G O M E R Y H I O  
 L T S E G R E G A T I O N G R  
 E A E C A R C T S A B M N H E  
 A C G A L W E N H C U O M T T  
 D U L E P R O T E S T U A S T  
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 R E C N E L O I V N O N R I A  
 S Q E D P R I Z E T N I D Z I  
 Q U E R E S P E C T S N R R V  
 R A P P A S T O R Q I G E K Y  
 H L S W Q R D S R B A N J P A

- |         |             |                |            |               |
|---------|-------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| AMERICA | ATLANTA     | AUTHOR         | CIVIL      | CONTRIBUTIONS |
| CORETTA | DEMONSTRATE | DISCRIMINATION | DOCTORATE  | DREAM         |
| EDUCATE | EQUAL       | ILLEGAL        | INDIA      | LEADER        |
| MARCH   | MONTGOMERY  | NONVIOLENCE    | PASTOR     | PEACE         |
| PRIZE   | PROTEST     | RACE           | RESPECT    | RIGHTS        |
|         | SEGREGATION | SPEECH         | WASHINGTON |               |

# DR. KING CROSSWORD



**Across**

- 1. Dr. King believed in \_\_\_\_ rights for all races.
- 5. Birthplace of Dr. King
- 6. Dr. King believed in \_\_\_\_.
- 8. *I Have A Dream* is the title of Dr. King's most famous \_\_\_\_.
- 10. Dr. King's occupation

**Down**

- 2. Dr. King traveled to \_\_\_\_ to study about nonviolence.
- 3. The \_\_\_\_ Memorial was the site of several of Dr. King's speeches.
- 4. Dr. King was a \_\_\_\_ of the civil rights movement.
- 7. First name of Dr. King's wife.
- 9. Dr. King won the Nobel Peace \_\_\_\_.



ANSWER PAGE

- PAGE 2:
1. to treat people with respect
  2. The United States Supreme Court ruled that segregation on buses was illegal.
  3. Rosa Parks was arrested when she refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man.
  4. while he was earning his doctorate degree at Boston University
  5. Crozer Theological Seminary
  6. he became the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church

- PAGE 4:
1. c
  2. b
  3. c
  4. d
  5. a

- PAGE 6:
1. d
  2. c
  3. b
  4. c
  5. d

PAGE 7: WRITING ACTIVITY

PAGE 8: ANSWERS NOT NEEDED

- PAGE 9:
- Across:** 1. CIVIL  
5. ATLANTA  
6. NONVIOLENCE  
8. SPEECH  
10. MINISTER
- Down:** 2. INDIA  
3. LINCOLN  
4. LEADER  
7. CORETTA  
9. PRIZE

PAGE 10: WRITING ACTIVITY