



## HE HAD A DREAM

by Jane Hurley and Doris McGee Haynes

- 1 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stood at the front of the church. He leaned forward to talk to the people.
- 2 "I am asking you to walk," he said. "Walk if there is no other way. It is better for you to walk with freedom than to ride without it."
- 3 The young minister then told the story of Rosa Parks. Mrs. Parks had been tired from a hard day's work.

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Nonfiction

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She got on a bus. And she sat on the first seat she found. Then the bus got crowded. And the bus driver told her to move to the back of the bus.

4 Mrs. Parks said, "No."

5 Now Dr. King asked the black people of Montgomery, Alabama, to say no with Mrs. Parks. He asked them to say no to a Montgomery rule that said black people must ride in the back of buses. He asked them not to ride the buses again until the rule was changed.

6 The people listened to Dr. King. For more than a year they did not ride the buses. They rode in cars. They rode in wagons. Or they walked.

7 They also went to court. They asked the court judges to decide whether the Montgomery rule was good or bad.

8 First they went to a city court. Then they went to a state court. At last they went to the U.S. Supreme Court. This is the high court of the United States.

9 The Supreme Court judges said that the Montgomery rule was not good. It had to be changed.

10 Martin Luther King and the black

people of Montgomery had won. Now they could ride the buses again. And they could sit on any seat they wanted to. They could ride with freedom.

11 Dr. King had helped the black people of Montgomery. But he did not stop there. He went on to help black people all over the United States.

12 Dr. King went wherever his help was needed. He went to cities in the South. He went to cities in the North. He went to give help. He went to tell about his work. And he went to tell about his dream. Dr. King's dream was this: One day black people and white people would live together in peace.

13 Award after award was given to Dr. King as he went from place to place. And in 1964 he was given his greatest award. He was given the Nobel Peace Prize. This is a prize given to a person who works to make the world a more peaceful place to live in.

14 Dr. King was killed in 1968. But his dream of peace still goes on. The dream of Martin Luther King, Jr., lives on in the hearts of people everywhere.

## How Well Did You Understand?

**A** Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a*, *b*, or *c*.

- 1 This story is mostly about
  - a how one man worked to make the world better
  - b how an unfair law in Montgomery was changed
  - c why people wanted to ride with freedom
- 2 Rosa Parks is remembered because
  - a she rode on a bus when other people wouldn't
  - b she stood up for her rights
  - c she walked to work every day
- 3 Dr. King's dream was
  - a to win the Nobel Peace Prize
  - b for all people to get along some day
  - c for black people to ride all over the United States
- 4 You can see Dr. King's dream working when
  - a people go to the Supreme Court of the United States
  - b black and white children are afraid to be friends
  - c black and white children play together as friends
- 5 Dr. King's dream is
  - a only remembered today by a few people
  - b as important today as when he was killed
  - c not very meaningful any more

## Learn about Words

**B** Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

*Directions:* Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- 1 bent (1)
- 2 packed with people (3)
- 3 make up their minds (7)
- 4 once more (10)
- 5 goal; hope for the future (12)
- 6 most important (13)
- 7 all over (14)

**C** too = also  
two = the number after one

Say *too* and *two*. They are homonyms. **Homonyms** are words that *sound* the same but aren't spelled the same and don't mean the same thing.

*Directions:* Look at each word in **heavy type**. Note the paragraph number. Look at the paragraph and find the homonym. Which of the two words fits in the blank in the sentence? Write the word.

**8 won** (10)

Rosa Parks was \_\_\_\_ of the followers of Dr. King.

**9 their** (11)

Dr. King went to cities and tried to help the people \_\_\_\_.

**10 piece** (12)

Dr. King worked for \_\_\_\_.

## Think about It

- D** What happened first in the story? What happened second? What happened third, fourth and last?

*Directions:* Read the sentences. They tell what happened in the story. But they are not in the right order. Which word in the box tells when each sentence happened? Write the word.

first      second      third  
fourth      last

- 1 Dr. King won a prize for peace.
- 2 Rosa Parks sat in the front of the bus.
- 3 The Supreme Court changed the Montgomery rule about where black people could sit on buses.
- 4 Dr. King told people about Rosa Parks.
- 5 Black people stayed off the Montgomery buses.

- E** Read the sentences. Look at the pronoun in **heavy type**. Which answer tells *who* or *what* the pronoun stands for? Write *a* or *b*.

**6** The bus driver looked at Mrs. Parks. He told **her** to move to the back of the bus.

- a** Mrs. Parks  
**b** The bus driver

**7** Dr. King talked about his dream in his church. He hoped **it** would come true.

- a** his church  
**b** his dream

**8** The Supreme Court said Montgomery's law had to be changed. **It** was not good.

- a** The Supreme Court  
**b** Montgomery's law

**9** The court judges said the black people had won. **They** could sit anywhere on the buses.

- a** The court judges  
**b** the black people

**10** A man killed Dr. King. **His** dream lives on.

- a** A man's  
**b** Dr. King's

## Find Out More

Get a book about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Read his famous speech called "I Have a Dream." If you can, listen to a recording of this speech. Tell a friend what Dr. King spoke about.