MARTIN LUTHER KING

THE MONTGOMERY STORY

10c

HOW 50,000 NEGROES FOUND A NEW WAY TO END RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

WALK TO FREEDOM

VICTORY FOR JUSTICE

WASHINGTON PARK

N MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, 50,000 NEGROES FOUND A NEW WAY TO WORK FOR FREEDOM, WITHOUT VIOLENCE AND WITHOUT HATING. BECAUSE THEY DID, THEY PUT NEW HOPE IN ALL MEN WHO SEEK BROTHERHOOD, AND WHO KNOW YOU DON'T BUILD IT WITH BULLETS, NO ONE PERSON MADE THE MONTGOMERY STORY, BUT ONE MAN'S NAME STOOD OUT AMONG THE HUNDREDS WHO WORKED SO HARD AND UNSELFIGHLY. THAT MAN WAS 29-YEAR-OLD MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MINISTER OF THE DEXTER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH AND PRESIDENT OF THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

YOUNG MARTIN GREW UP IN THE SHADOW OF THE CHURCH. HIS FATHER WAS PASTOR OF ONE OF THE LARGEST BAPTIST CHURCHES IN ATLANTA, WHERE



THE BASIC BOOK IN THE KING HOUSE WAS THE BIBLE. FROM IT YOUNG MARTIN EARLY LEARNED JESUS' TEACHINGS ABOUT LOVE AND ITS POWER.



MARTIN FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL AT IS AND ENTERED MOREHOUSE COLLEGE IN ATLANTA. THERE HE WORKED WITH THE CITY'S INTERCOLLEGIATE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL



AT CROZER SEMINARY, ONE OF SIX NEGROES AMONG NEARLY 100 STUDENTS, HE WAS ELECTED PRESI-DENT OF THE STUDENT BODY AND GRADUATED AT THE HEAD OF HIS

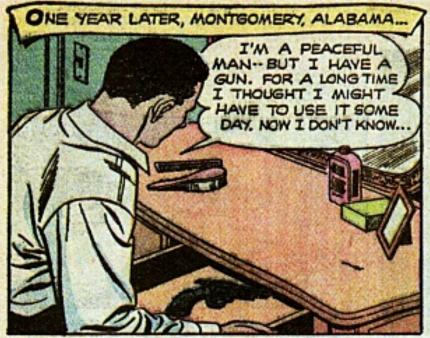


WHILE HE STUDIED FOR A PH.D. DESREE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY, HE MET AND MARRIED CORETTA SCOTT, A PRETTY YOUNG SINGER.

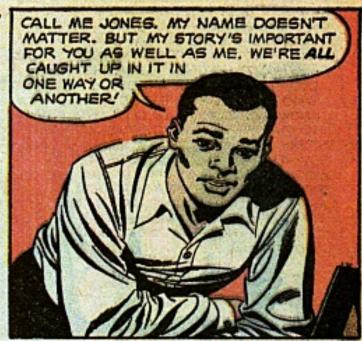


NORTHERN CHURCHES
WERE OPEN TO THE YOUNG
MINISTER, BUT IN 1954, MARTIN LUTHER KING AND HIS
BRIDE DECIDED TO RETURN
TO THE SOUTH.





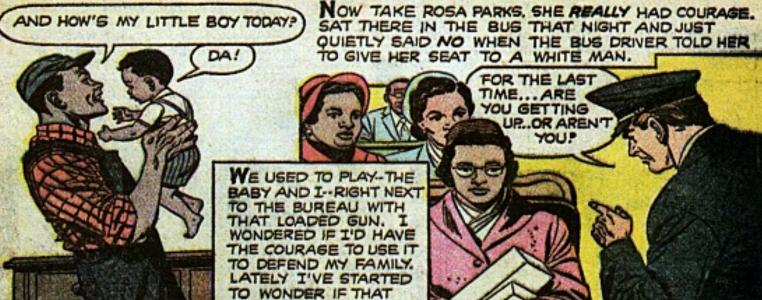
LIVE IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. I LOVE MONTGOMERY, BUT I'VE HATED IT, TOO. A NEGRO ANYWHERE IN THE DEEP SOUTH HAS A HARD TIME. JIM CROW GITS MIGHTY HEAVY ON A MAN'S SPIRIT.



PEOPLE LIVE SCARED UNDER JIM CROW.
I WAS SCARED, TOO. YOU NEVER KNOW
WHEN SOMETHING MIGHT BUST OUT, AND
I HAVE A WIFE AND BABY.







REALLY WOULD



THAT NIGHT I COULDN'T SLEEP, I WAS GETTING SICK AND TIRED OF ALL THIS. I WOKE UP MY WIFE.

SOMETHING OUGHT TO BE DONE. ROSA IS A GOOD WOMAN AND NOT A TROUBLE MAKER, THEY HAD NO RIGHT ARRESTING HER!

BUT WHAT CAN WE 00?



DECIDED TO TALK TO SOME OF MY FRIENDS.



WE GOT OUT A MIMEOGRAPHED SHEET PRO-TESTING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ROSA PARKS AND CALLING FOR A ONE-DAY BOY-COTT OF THE BUSES. LET'S JUST



THAT NIGHT, WORD WAS FLASHED AROUND TOWN THAT THE PROTEST WAS SET FOR THE NEXT DAY.



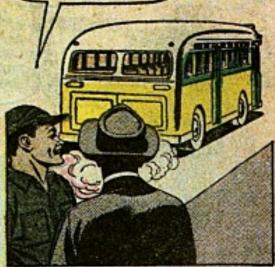
THE NEWSPAPERS OF MONTGOMERY HELPED MORE THAN THEY KNEW.



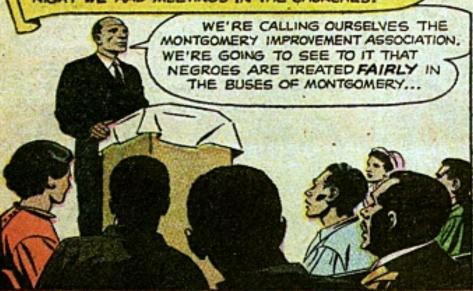




OUR PROTEST IS A SUCCESS! NO ONE'S RIDING THOSE BUSES.



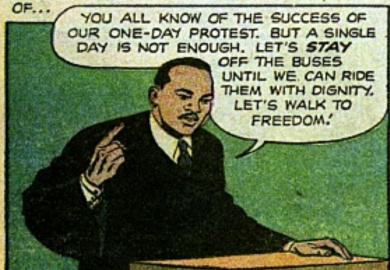
DURING THE DAY WE FORMED A COMMITTEE, THAT NIGHT WE HAD MEETINGS IN THE CHURCHES.



THE CROWDS WERE HUGE, WE USED LOUDSPEAKERS SO THAT THOSE WHO COULDN'T GET IN COULD HEAR WHAT WAS HAPPENING FROM OUT ON THE



AT THAT TIME I KNEW MARTIN LUTHER KING ONLY SLIGHTLY, BUT I SOON LEARNED THAT A NEW AND IMPORTANT LEADER HAD COME ON THE SCENE -- ONE AMERICA WOULD FEEL PROUD



THIS IS A NONVIOLENT PROTEST AGAINST INJUSTICE. OUR CHIEF WEAPONS ARE MORAL AND SPIRITUAL FORCES. WE DEPEND ON LOVE! LOVE AND GOODWILL TOWARD ALL MEN MUST BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR MOVEMENT IF IT IS TO BE







WE WALKED AND WALKED ... AND SOMETIMES THUMBED A RIDE LIKE ANY HITCH-

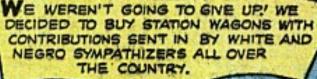


THINGS WERE GOING ALMOST TOO GOOD. THERE



THE POLICE OFFICERS KEPT BOTHERING US.
THEY EVEN STOPPED MARTIN LUTHER KING'S CAR.







DAY THAT TOUCHED MY HEART AND DID SOMETHING









MARTIN LUTHER KING RUSHED HOME. A CROWD WAS GATHERED OUTSIDE. THEY WERE IN AN ANGRY MOOD, WANTING TO ANSWER VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE. AND THEN KING SPOKE TO THEM





THOUGH WE TRIED TO LOVE OUR ENEMIES, THEIR HEARTS WERE NOT SOFTENED TOWARD US. IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO BREAK UP OUR BUS PROTEST, THEY INDICTED 93 OF OUR LEADERS, INCLUDING



WE WERE THRILLED TO SEE MANY OF OUR LEADERS SURRENDER WITHOUT BEING HUNTED



THOSE ARRESTS WERE LAST MINUTE DESPERA-TION MEASURES ON THE PART OF THOSE WHO KNEW THAT SOME DAY SOON, RIGHT AND

JUSTICE WOULD PREVAIL. AS REVEREND RALPH ABERNATHY SAID ...

> AT THIS MOMENT, THE SUPREME COURT IS CONSIDERING OUR CASE AGAINST THE BUS COMPANY, ONE DAY SOON WE ARE GOING BACK TO THE BUSES. WE MUST GET READY FOR THAT DAY.

WE BEGAN TO MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR WHAT WE WOULD DO WHEN WE GOT BACK ON THE BUSES. THINGS WOULD BE DIFFERENT. WE ACTED IT



ARGUING





THAT WAS HOW WE GOT READY TO GO BACK ON THE BUSES. TO MAKE SURE WE WOULD NOT BE ACCUSED OF VIOLENCE, WE DECIDED TO CLASP OUR HANDS IN OUR LAPS AND NOT USE THEM AGAINST ANYONE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED.



ON DECEMBER 21, WE WENT BACK ON THE BUSES. SOMEONE SHOUTED VILE AND ABUSIVE WORDS AT A YOUNG FELLOW WHO WAS GETTING



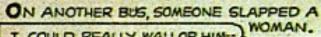
BUT NOW IT WAS DIFFERENT FOR ALL OF US. WE ALL JUST SMILED. AND THAT DID SOMETHING TO THE MAN WHO SHOUTED. THE NEWSPAPER FELLOWS TOOK HIS PICTURE...

HEY! YOU'RE SMILING! I
THOUGHT YOU WERE MAD
AT THESE PEOPLE!

I AM! BUTIT'S
PRETTY HARD TO
STAY MAD WHEN
THEY DON'T FIGHT
BACK!

ONE BUS DRIVER MADE A WOMAN PAY













THEN THE NIGHT BOMBINGS
BEGAN. THERE WERE SEVEN
OF THEM.

ONE OF THE HOMES BOMBED WAS THAT OF REVEREND ROBERT GRAETZ, WHITE PASTOR OF A NEGRO LUTHERAN CHURCH, WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF US RIGHT FROM THE



PLODED BOMB WAS FOUND ON KING'S FRONT PORCH. BUT NOW MONTGOMERY'S LAW-ABIDING WHITE CITIZENS TURNED AGAINST THE VIOLENCE.



ANYONE AT ALL, IT'S FOR ALL MONTGOMERY.
WE RESPECT OURSELVES MORE AND WE KNOW
THAT THE IDEA OF LOVE AND NON-VIOLENCE IS
SPREADING. I'VE THROWN MY GUN AWAYIT HAD GOTTEN MUCH TOO HEAVY FOR ME
EVER TO LIFT AGAIN!



MARTIN LUTHER KING TELLS HOW A NATION WON ITS FREEDOM BY THE MONTGOMERY METHOD



"MAHATMA GANDHI STARTED HIS CAMPAIGN FOR FREEDOM IN INDIA IN 1919. IT LOOKED HOPELESS. THE BRITISH EMPIRE WAS THE STRONGEST THE WORLD HAD EVER KNOWN. INDIA'S THE NEW CAMPAIGN MEANT SUFFERING AND EVEN DEATH. WHEN GANDHI CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO FAST AND PRAY TO PROTEST A BAD LAW, THE BRITISH SHOT DOWN HUNDREDS OF THEM AT AMRITSAR, IT RAISED HORRIFIED

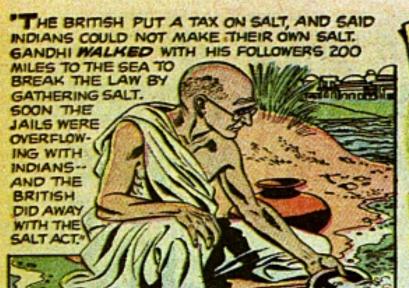




AGAIN AND AGAIN THEY PUT GANDHI IN PRISON, BUT THAT DID NOT STOP HIM. HE WOULD WAIT PATIENTLY, THINKING AND PRAYING, AND AS SOON AS HE WAS OUT WOULD MILLIONS OF THE POORER PEOPLE IN INDIA WERE CALLED 'UNTOUCHABLES! THEY COULD NOT EVEN USE THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY. GANDHI RENAMED THEM 'HARIJAN--CHILDREN OF GOD,' AND LED THEM TO STAND IN THE FORBIDDEN ROAD. IT TOOK IS MONTHS OF STANDING, BUT THEN THE POLICE GAVE IN AND





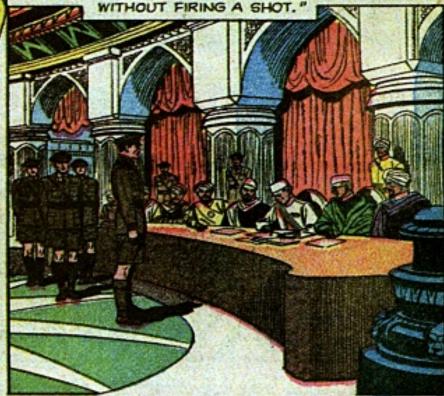




"BESIDES, THE NEWS THAT BRITISH SOLDIERS WERE SHOOTING UNARMED MEN AND WOMEN AND PUTTING LEADERS IN JAIL, WAS TROUBLING THE BRITISH AT HOME."

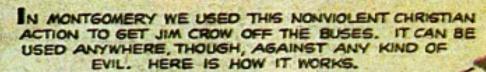
THE VOTERS IN MY DISTRICT DON'T LIKE WHAT WE'RE DOING IN WE'LL HAVE TO INDIA. GET OUT. THAT'S CLEAR.

"...FINALLY THE BRITISH GAVE IN AND GRANTED INDIA'S









FIRST, REMEMBER THAT
YOU CAN DO SOMETHING
ABOUT THE SITUATION.
NOT JUST THE
GOVERNMENT, OR SOME
BIG ORGANIZATION, BUT
YOU. GOD SAYS YOU
ARE IMPORTANT. HE NEEDS
YOU TO CHANGE THINGS.



THE SECOND THING IS MUCH HARDER. GOD LOVES YOUR ENEMY, TOO, AND THAT MAKES HIM IMPORTANT TO YOU. YOU HAVE TO SEE HIM AS A HUMAN BEING, LIKE YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TO TRY TO UNDERSTAND HIM AND SYMPATHIZE WITH HIM.



TO SEE YOUR ENEMY AS A HUMAN BEING, YOU HAVE TO STOP SEEING HIM AS YOUR ENEMY. EVEN WHEN HE DOES CRUEL, HEART-LESS THINGS TO YOU, HE IS A CHILD OF GOD. HE IS YOUR BROTHER, EVEN WHEN HE HURTS YOU.

HARDEST OF ALL, YOU HAVE TO HELP YOUR ENEMY TO SEE YOU AS A HUMAN BEING. HE HAS TO SEE YOU AS A PERSON WHO WANTS THE SAME KIND OF THINGS HE WANTS: LOVE, A FAMILY, A JOB, THE RESPECT OF HIS NEIGHBORS.



IT WILL BE EAGIER FOR HIM TO SEE YOU THIS WAY IF YOU ACT LIKE A BROTHER. SO, EVEN WHEN HE TRIES TO HURT YOU, YOU MUST NOT STRIKE BACK. EVEN IN YOUR THOUGHTS, YOU MUST NOT STRIKE BACK. YOU MUST GO ON LOVING HIM. LIKE THE SCHOOLGIRL IN LITTLE ROCK, YOU MUST SAY, "FATHER, FORGIVE THEM, FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO."

THIS DOES NOT MEAN GIVING UP, THOUGH. IT IS WRONG FOR THIS BROTHER OF YOURS TO TREAT YOU AS THOUGH YOU WERE NOT A HUMAN BEING, AND IT WOULD BE WRONG FOR YOU TO HELP HIM TREAT YOU THIS WAY. YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP HIM.



HE IS A HUMAN BEING AND SO HE CAN TREAT YOU BADLY ONLY BECAUSE, SOMEHOW, HE IS AFRAID OF YOU, OR OF WHAT YOU MIGHT DO TO HIM. IF YOU TRY TO STOP HIM BY USING VIOLENCE AND BY "GETTING EVEN", HE WILL BE SURE HE IS RIGHT IN BEING AFRAID OF YOU.

F YOU SHOW HIM LOVE, THOUGH, YOU START TO TAKE AWAY THE REASON FOR HIS FEAR AND YOU MAKE IT HARDER FOR HIM TO GO ON HATING YOU, HERE'S HOW TO GO ABOUT IT.

FIRST,
DECIDE WHAT
SPECIAL THING
YOU'RE GOING TO WORK
ON. IN MONTGOMERY, IT WAG
BUSES; SOMEWHERE ELSE
IT MIGHT BE WOTING, OR
SCHOOLS, OR INTEGRATED
CHURCHES. DON'T TRY
TO DEAL WITH
EVERYTHING WRONG
AT ONCE.



SECOND, BE SURE
YOU KNOW THE FACTS
ABOUT THE SITUATION.
DON'T ACT ON THE BASIS
OF RUMORS OR HALFTRUTHS. FIND OUT.



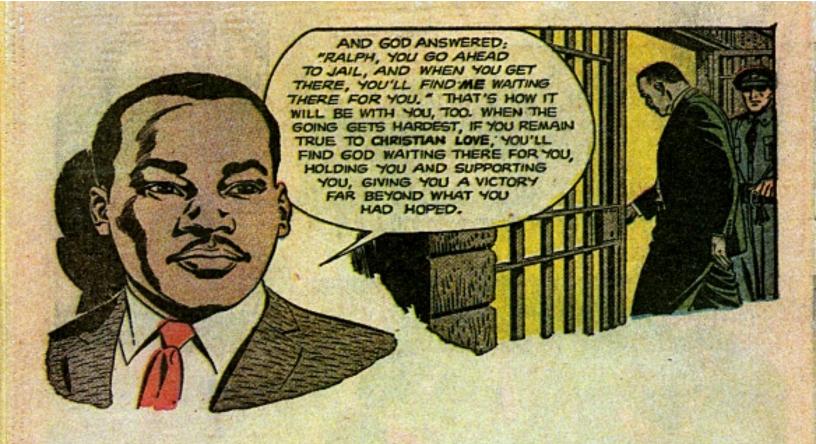
THIRD, WHERE YOU CAN, TALK
TO THE PEOPLE CONCERNED TRY
TO EXPLAIN HOW YOU FEEL AND
WHY YOU FEEL AS YOU DO.
DON'T ARGUE-JUST TELL
THEM YOUR SIDE, AND LISTEN
TO THEIRS. SOMETIMES YOU'LL
BE SURPRISED TO FIND
FRIENDS AMONG THOSE YOU
THOUGHT WERE ENEMIES.

NEXT, BE SURE YOU ARE READY. JOIN WITH OTHERS WHO FEEL THE WAY YOU DO. HAVE SOMEONE WITH EXPERIENCE COME IN TO TELL YOU HOW TO GET READY. TRY PRACTICE SITUATIONS AS WE DID IN MONTGOMERY. MAKE SURE YOU CAN FACE ANY OPPOSITION WITHOUT HITTING BACK, OR RUNNING AWAY,

OR HATING.

WHEN YOU ARE READY, THEN GO
AHEAD, AND DON'T TURN BACK NO
MATTER HOW HARD THE WAY
OR HOW LONG THE STRUGGLE, WHEN
ANY FRIEND, THE REV. RALPH ABERNATHY,
FOUND HIMSELF ABOUT TO BE PUT IN
JAIL IN MONTGOMERY, HE PRAYED,
"GOD, I'M AFRAID TO GO TO JAIL.
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN JAIL BEFORE.
IF I GO, GOD, WILL YOU GO WITH ME?"





This booklet is published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, whose thousands of members throughout the world attempt to practice the things that Jesus tought about overcoming evil with good. Additional copies of "Martin Luther King and The Montgomery Story," at quantity rates, and other printed material on this subject, may be obtained by writing FOR, Box 271, Nyack, H. Y.

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