

Our Friend, The Enemy



Martin Luther King Jr. was a peacemaker. He believed that as Christians we are called to love our enemies. During his lifelong mission to gain civil rights for African Americans, Dr. King advocated nonviolent and peaceful actions as a way of change. To this end, Dr. King advocated sit-ins, boycotts, and other nonviolent strategies to end segregation laws that discriminated against African Americans. For his effort, Dr. King was named Time Magazine's Man of the year in 1963, and he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Dr. King was well aware that this kind of love was difficult-impossible, even, if a person depended on his own efforts. Dr. King knew that Love for those who hate you can come from only one source- Jesus. Dr. King called it "the love of God working in the lives on men. And when you rise to love on this level, you being to love men, not because they are likeable, but because god loves them. You look at every man, and you love him because you know God loves him. And he might be the worst person you've ever seen."

That, according to Dr. King, is what Jesus was talking about when he told us to love our enemies. For when we love like that, Dr. King said, that love has the power to change. He wrote, "We must discover the power of love, the power, the redemptive power of love. And when we discover that we will be able to make of this old world a new world. We will be able to make men better. Love is the only way."

**"But I say,
Love your enemies!
Pray for those who
persecute you!"**

Matthew 5:44

Also on this day....

1777-The people of New Connecticut (now the state of Vermont) declared their independence from England.

1967-The first National Football League Super Bowl was played. The green bay packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs- 35-10.

1892-The rules for the game of basketball were created.