

THEN I SAW A NEWS DISPATCH THAT MADE MY HEART JUMP...

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HAS DECLARED BUS SEGREGATION **ILLEGAL** IN MONTGOMERY!



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

ONCE I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN SURE ABOUT THAT-- AND SHOUTED DIRTY WORDS BACK-- AND MAYBE HIT BACK!



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...



ONE BUS DRIVER MADE A WOMAN PAY HER FARE TWICE.



ON ANOTHER BUS, SOMEONE SLAPPED A WOMAN.

I COULD REALLY WALLOP HIM-- HE'S SMALLER THAN ME! BUT I'M GOING TO REMEMBER WHAT REVEREND KING TOLD ME ABOUT PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE. I'LL JUST KEEP MY HANDS CLASPED THAT WAY THERE WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE.



AT FIRST, A FEW BUSES ON NIGHT RUNS WERE PEPPERED WITH SHOTGUN BLASTS.



THE KU KLUX KLAN PARADED THROUGH THE STREETS...

CROSSES WERE BURNED IN THE NIGHT...



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



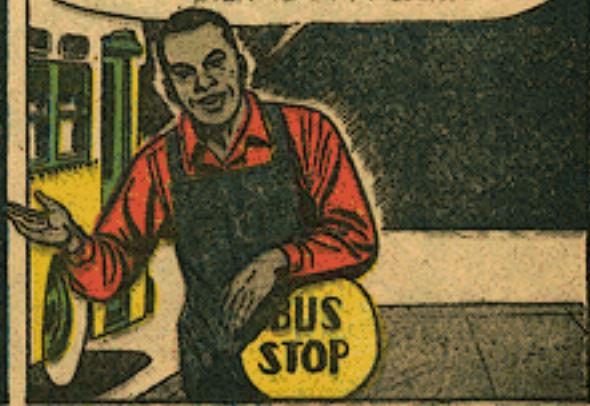
ONE OF THE HOMES BOMBED WAS THAT OF REVEREND
ROBERT GRAETZ, WHITE PASTOR OF A NEGRO LUTHERAN
CHURCH, WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF US RIGHT FROM THE
START.



NEGRO CHURCHES WERE BOMBED AND AN UNEX-
PLODED BOMB WAS FOUND ON KING'S FRONT
PORCH. BUT NOW MONTGOMERY'S LAW-ABIDING
WHITE CITIZENS TURNED AGAINST THE VIOLENCE.



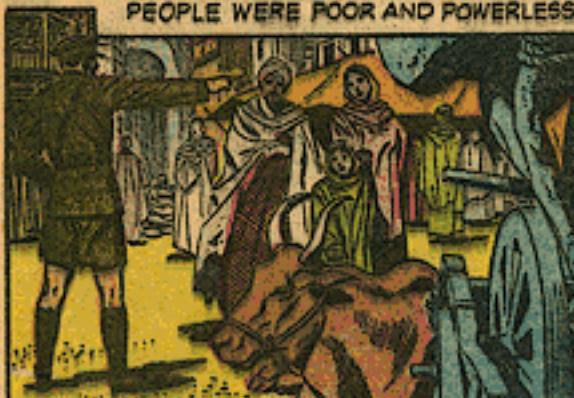
IF WHAT HAPPENED HERE IS A VICTORY FOR
ANYONE AT ALL, IT'S FOR ALL MONTGOMERY.
WE RESPECT OURSELVES MORE AND WE KNOW
THAT THE IDEA OF LOVE AND NON-VIOLENCE IS
SPREADING. I'VE THROWN MY GUN AWAY-
IT HAD GOTTEN MUCH TOO HEAVY FOR ME
EVER TO LIFT AGAIN!



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 PEOPLE WERE POOR AND POWERLESS."



"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 START AGAIN..."



"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 PROTESTS ALL OVER THE WORLD."



"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 16 MONTHS OF STANDING, BUT THEN THE POLICE GAVE IN AND LET THEM PASS."



"THE BRITISH PUT A TAX ON SALT, AND SAID INDIANS COULD NOT MAKE THEIR OWN SALT. GANDHI WALKED WITH HIS FOLLOWERS 200 MILES TO THE SEA TO BREAK THE LAW BY GATHERING SALT.

SOON THE JAILS WERE OVERFLOWING WITH INDIANS--AND THE BRITISH DID AWAY WITH THE SALT ACT."



"IT BECAME HARDER AND HARDER FOR THE BRITISH TO KEEP CONTROL. THEIR JAILS WERE FILLED WITH INDIA'S BEST-LOVED LEADERS, INCLUDING SUCH MEN AS NEHRU, WHO LATER BECAME PRIME MINISTER."



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

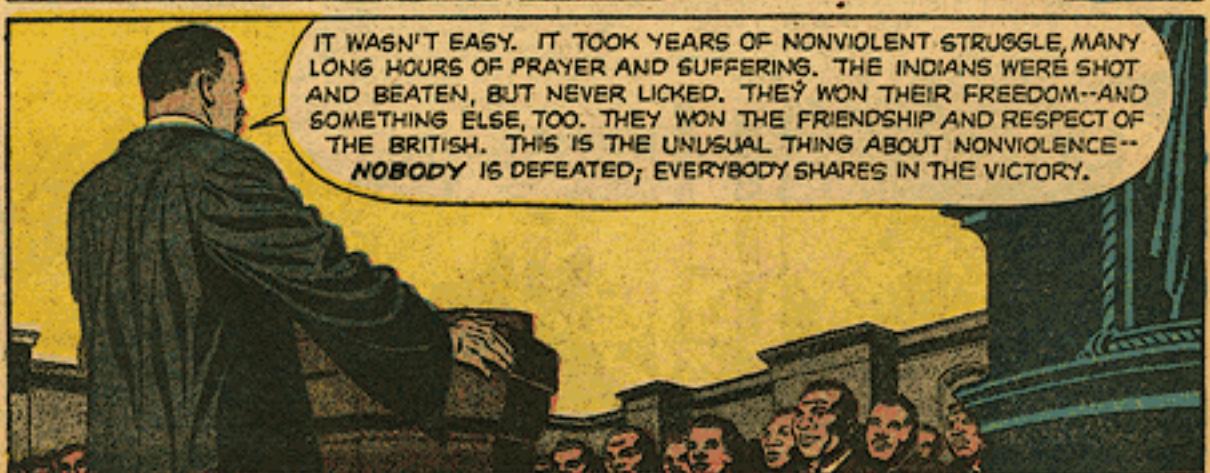
THE VOTERS IN MY DISTRICT DON'T LIKE WHAT WE'RE DOING IN INDIA. WE'LL HAVE TO GET OUT. THAT'S CLEAR.



"...FINALLY THE BRITISH GAVE IN AND GRANTED INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE. GANDHI HAD MADE A REVOLUTION WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT."



IT WASN'T EASY. IT TOOK YEARS OF NONVIOLENT STRUGGLE, MANY LONG HOURS OF PRAYER AND SUFFERING. THE INDIANS WERE SHOT AND BEATEN, BUT NEVER LICKED. THEY WON THEIR FREEDOM--AND SOMETHING ELSE, TOO. THEY WON THE FRIENDSHIP AND RESPECT OF THE BRITISH. THIS IS THE UNUSUAL THING ABOUT NONVIOLENCE--NOBODY IS DEFEATED; EVERYBODY SHARES IN THE VICTORY.



HOW THE MONTGOMERY METHOD WORKS

IN MONTGOMERY WE USED THIS NONVIOLENT CHRISTIAN ACTION TO GET JIM CROW OFF THE BUSES. IT CAN BE USED ANYWHERE, THOUGH, AGAINST ANY KIND OF EVIL. HERE IS HOW IT WORKS.

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, HEARTLESS 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 EASIER 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.

IF 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 WAS
BUSES, SOMEWHERE ELSE
IT MIGHT BE VOTING, 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 HALF-
TRUTHS. FIND OUT.



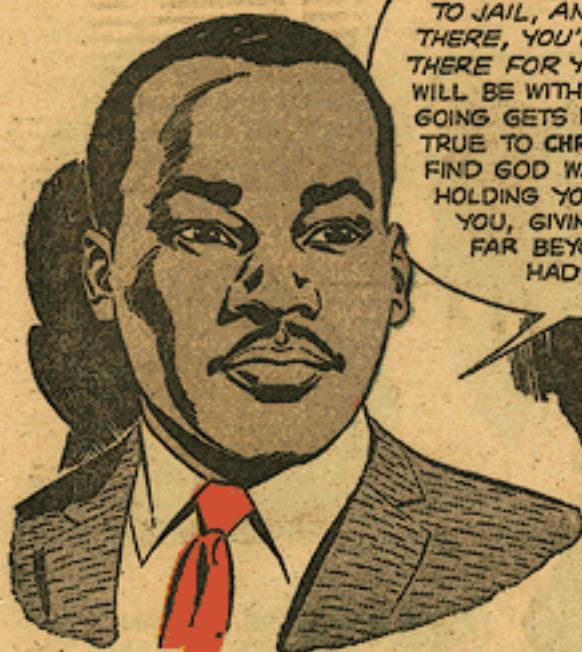
THIRD, WHERE YOU CAN, TALK
TO THE PEOPLE CONCERNED. TRY
TO EXPLAIN HOW YOU FEEL, AND
WHY YOU FEEL AS YOU DO.
DON'T ARGUE--JUST TELL
THEM YOUR SIDE, AND LISTEN
TO THEIRS. SOMETIMES YOU'LL
BE SURPRISED TO FIND
FRIENDS AMONG THOSE YOU
THOUGHT WERE ENEMIES.

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 OPPO-
SITION 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
MY 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?"





AND GOD ANSWERED:
"RALPH, YOU GO AHEAD
TO JAIL, AND WHEN YOU GET
THERE, YOU'LL FIND ME WAITING
THERE FOR YOU." THAT'S HOW IT
WILL BE WITH YOU, TOO. WHEN THE
GOING GETS HARDEST, IF YOU REMAIN
TRUE TO CHRISTIAN LOVE, YOU'LL
FIND GOD WAITING THERE FOR YOU,
HOLDING YOU AND SUPPORTING
YOU, GIVING YOU A VICTORY
FAR BEYOND WHAT YOU
HAD HOPED.



This booklet is published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, whose thousands of members throughout the world attempt to practice the things that Jesus taught 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, N. Y.