

## FUMCESLI 1-12-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

**Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now.**

### **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Monday is a holiday. It is MLK day. MLK stands for Martin Luther King. Martin Luther King was a black minister who fought against **racism** and **discrimination**. At that time in America blacks and whites could not use the same **facilities**. There were separate churches, schools, swimming pools, neighborhoods and even public restrooms for Black people.. Those for Blacks were seldom equal to those for whites. America was a **segregated** nation.

Martin Luther King was an **inspiration** to the civil rights movement. He led **sit-ins** to desegregate lunch counters and restaurants. He led boycotts of businesses that would not serve black people. He led marches demanding equal treatment for black people. He delivered a speech called "I Have a Dream." A famous line from the speech is, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." Martin Luther King was assassinated in 1968 because of his views on equality for blacks.

Martin Luther King probably could not imagine that less than 50 years after his speech, America would elect a black man as president. Still there are many people in America who are prejudiced against people of another race or religion. This is a problem that America continues to fight.

1. Are most of the people in your country of the same race and ethnic group?
2. Is there an ethnic group in your country who are not treated well?
3. Are most of the people in your country the same religion?
4. Have you or someone you know ever experienced discrimination?
5. Do you think racism and discrimination are getting better or worse world wide?
6. What would you do if someone used a racist term in your presence? or told a racist joke?
7. Do you think interracial marriages have more problems than those from the same ethnic group?
8. Would your parents or grandparents approve of an interracial marriage?

### **Nelson Mandela**

Nelson Mandela devoted his life to fighting **prejudice** in South Africa. Mandela traveled his state organizing a fight against **discriminatory** laws and racial **bias**. He encouraged **civil disobedience** as a tool against the **oppression** of Black Africans.

**Discuss:** What is an example of civil disobedience? Is it OK for a leader to encourage people to break the law as a way to change the system? Does civil disobedience work? Has this tactic been tried in your country.

Mandela encouraged his fellow citizens to challenge the **prevailing paradigm** of power. Mandela believed that prejudice **burdened** not only the oppressed, but also the oppressors.

**Discuss:** What does Mandela mean when he says prejudice burdens the oppressed AND the oppressors?

The government arrested and jailed Mandela. But even though in prison, he remained the **de facto** leader of his movement. Mandela's courage to fight against the **oppressive** system worried the **ruling class**. But they refused to **amend** the laws which denied freedom to Blacks. The rulers could keep Mandela in prison, but they couldn't make him change his **notions** about **inequality**. And eventually, Mandela was released from prison and in 1994 was elected president of South Africa.

**Discuss:** Do you have a hero in your country who has fought against inequality?

**Read this conversation and answer the questions.**

**Jim:** My dad is **deeding** me his farm so there won't be any trouble over the **inheritance**.

**Brady:** Why is he doing that? Is he afraid your brother will not **honor his will**?

**Jim:** I guess so. My little brother is a drug addict and **runs through money like water**. My dad is **concerned** that if my little brother gets half of the farm, he'll sell it or gamble it away to pay for drugs. Dad really wants the farm to stay in the family. His great grandfather settled on the land in the 1800's.

**Brady:** Does your dad think he might die soon?

**Jim:** My dad has been in poor health for months. He wants to be prepared for his death. He's afraid if he gives the farm to me in the will, my little brother will hire a lawyer to break the will. But if he deeds the property to me, and I take possession of it before he dies, it would discourage my little brother from fighting his decision.

1. Jim's dad is **deeding** him the farm. A deed is a paper that shows who owns the property. Jim's dad has a deed to the property with his name on it. But he will change the deed to show that Jim is the owner. Then Jim's dad will have the deed **notarized** and **filed** with the county. At that point, it is a legal record and Jim is the legal owner of the farm.

Jim's dad could leave the farm to Jim in his will. But Jim's dad is afraid his other son, Jim's brother, will not honor the will. In other words, he will fight Jim to get the property. Sometimes other family members can **contest** a will. In other words, they can sue in court to change the will. Why doesn't Jim's dad trust Jim's brother?

2. Why does Jim's dad want the farm to "stay in the family"?

3. Do you have something you would like to stay in the family? In other words, something that will be "passed down" to future generations?

4. In your country, do houses and farms stay in the family for generations? OR, is it more common for property to be sold after someone's death?

5. Is there anything special that your mother or father own that you would like to have after their death? Should you tell your mother or father that you would like to have that special thing?

6. An **heir** is someone who inherits something. It is pronounced like air, not hair. The H is silent. Are you worried you and your siblings will argue about who will inherit things after your parents die?

7. It is hard to have a discussion with someone about what they want to happen after their death. No one likes to talk about their death. But it is helpful to the heirs. Have you had this discussion with your parents?

8. We have a saying, "the black sheep of the family". This means the person is bad or irresponsible. We could say that Jim's brother is the black sheep of the family. Everyone else is a good person, but Jim's brother does drugs and gets into trouble. He is the black sheep of the family. Do you think it is fair for Jim's dad to give all his property to Jim?