

LEVELED BOOK • H

# Dr. King's Memorial



Written by Kira Freed

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## Focus Question

Who was Dr. King, and why is he important?

# Words to Know

fair  
laws  
marched

memorial  
peaceful  
separate

**Title page:** Dr. King with his wife and children in 1966

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Level H Leveled Book  
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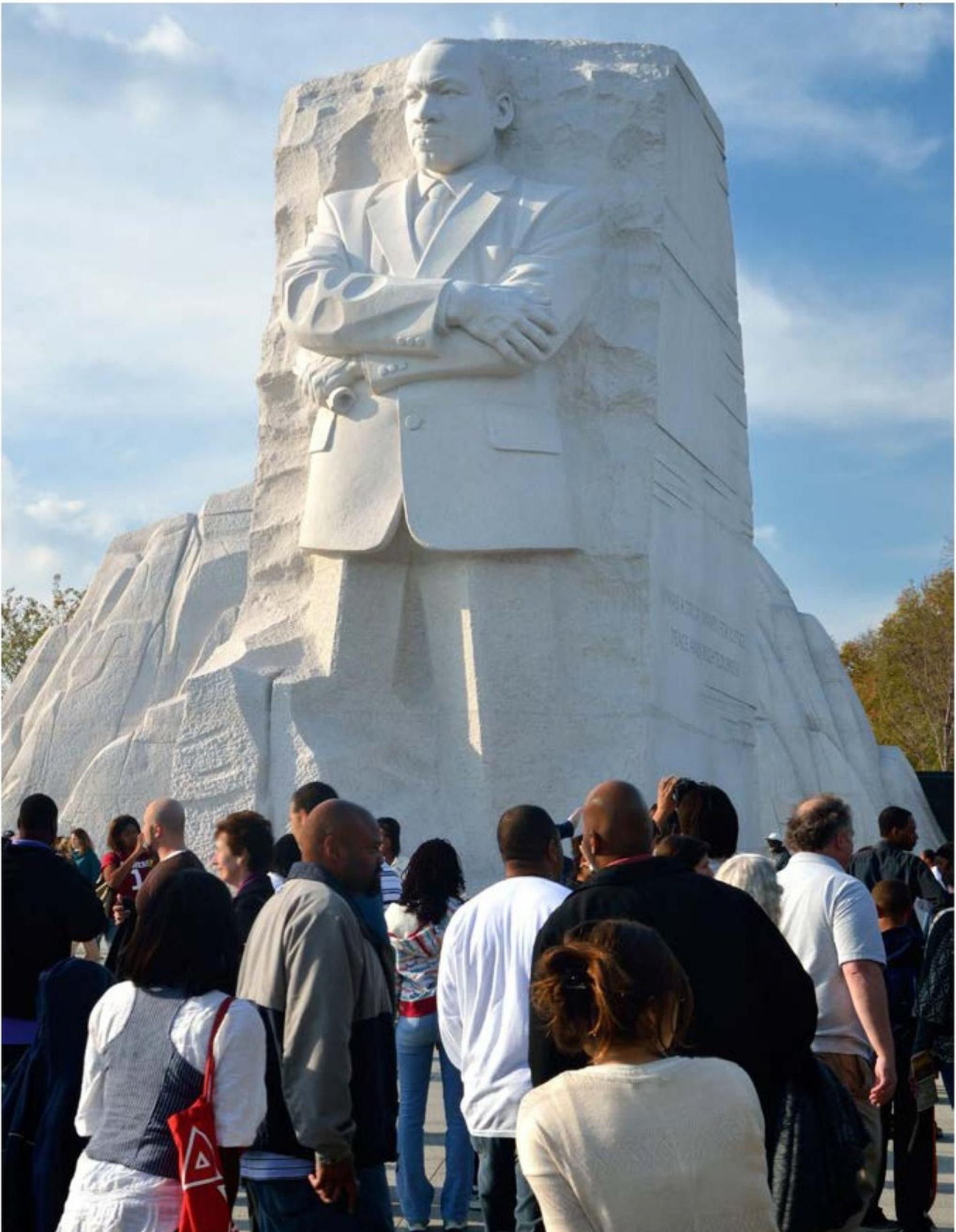
## Correlation

| LEVEL H           |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Fountas & Pinnell | H     |
| Reading Recovery  | 13–14 |
| DRA               | 14    |



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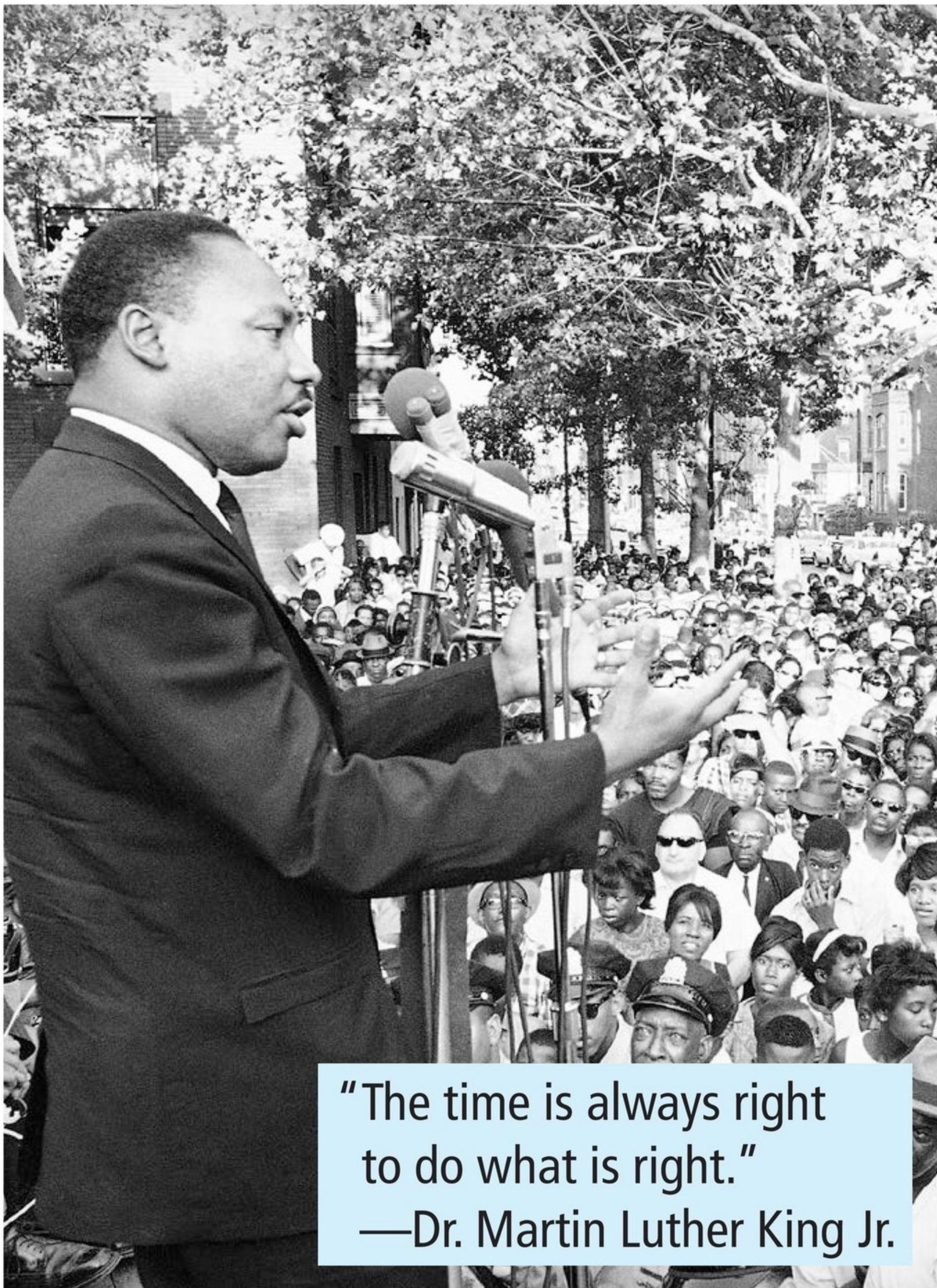
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The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

## **Introduction**

**A memorial to Dr. Martin Luther  
King Jr. is in Washington, D.C.**



**“The time is always right  
to do what is right.”**  
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Many people watch as Dr. King gives a speech about equality.

**Who was Dr. King?  
Why do we remember him?**



A young Martin Luther King Jr. (front, right) is shown with his family.

## The South

Dr. King grew up in the South  
in the 1930s.

Many **laws** in the South at that time  
were not **fair** to black people.



Black people and white people could not drink from the same drinking fountains in the South.

Laws kept black people and white

people **separate**.

White children and black children

went to different schools.



Black people sit at the back of a bus.

Black people had to sit at the backs  
of city buses.

The front seats were for white people.

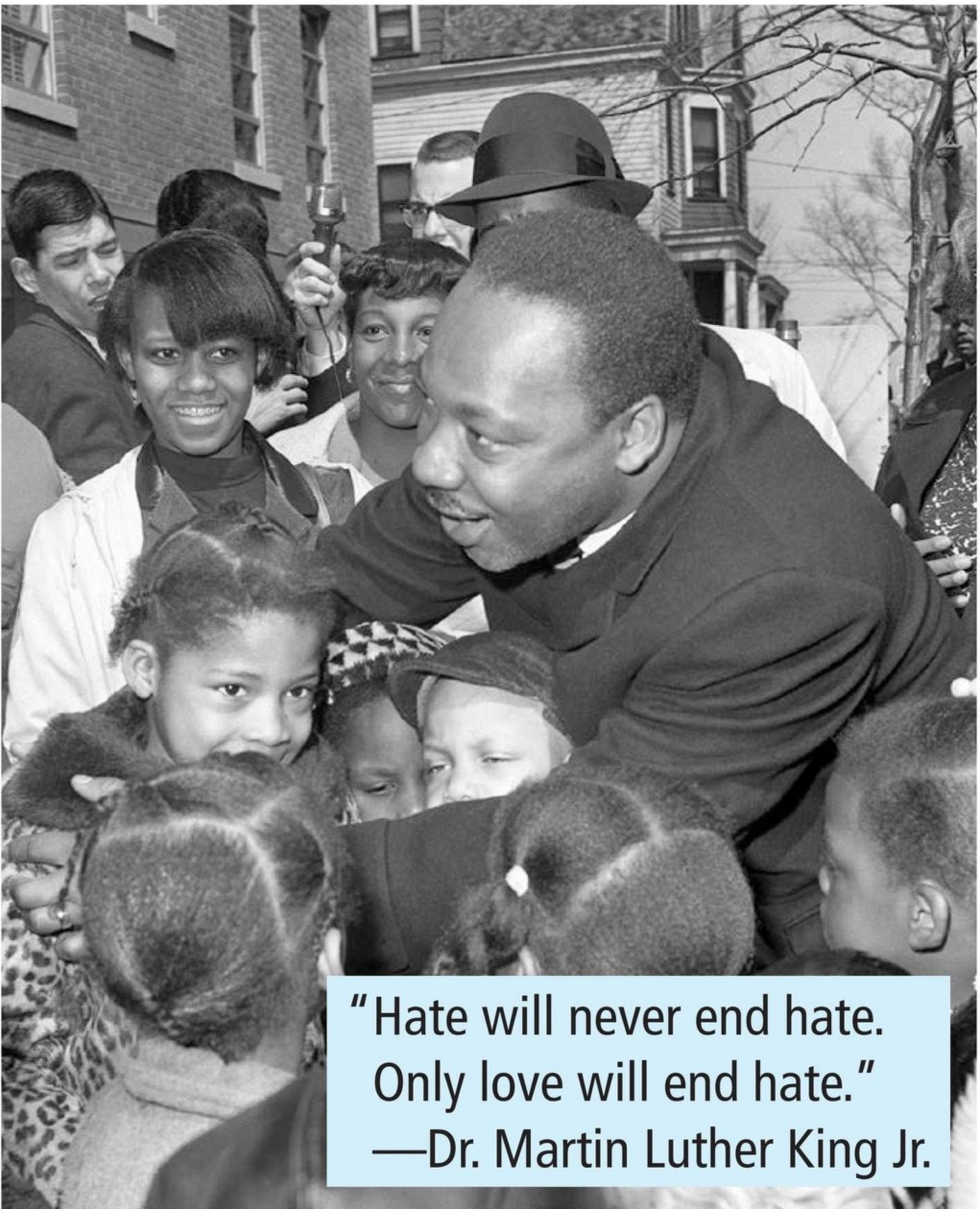


Dr. King talks to people about unfair laws.

## Dr. King's Work

Dr. King wanted the unfair laws  
to change.

He talked to many people about  
how to change the laws.



**"Hate will never end hate.  
Only love will end hate."**  
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. King wanted to use **peaceful** ways to make changes.

He said there was already too much hate in the world.



Dr. King leads a march to change the unfair laws.

Dr. King **marched** with many people.

They marched to say no

to unfair laws.

Dr. King worked with many people

to get the laws changed.



Dr. King shakes hands with President Lyndon Johnson in 1964. President Johnson signed a bill that changed the unfair laws.

## New Laws

The laws changed in 1964.

The new laws are much fairer.

It is now against the law to  
treat some people better than  
other people.



Two black girls go to a school that used to be for white children only.

Black children and white children  
can go to the same schools.  
People of every color can sit where  
they want on buses.

## Do You Know?

Rosa Parks  
would not sit at  
the back of a  
bus in 1955. Her  
courage helped  
change the  
unfair laws.



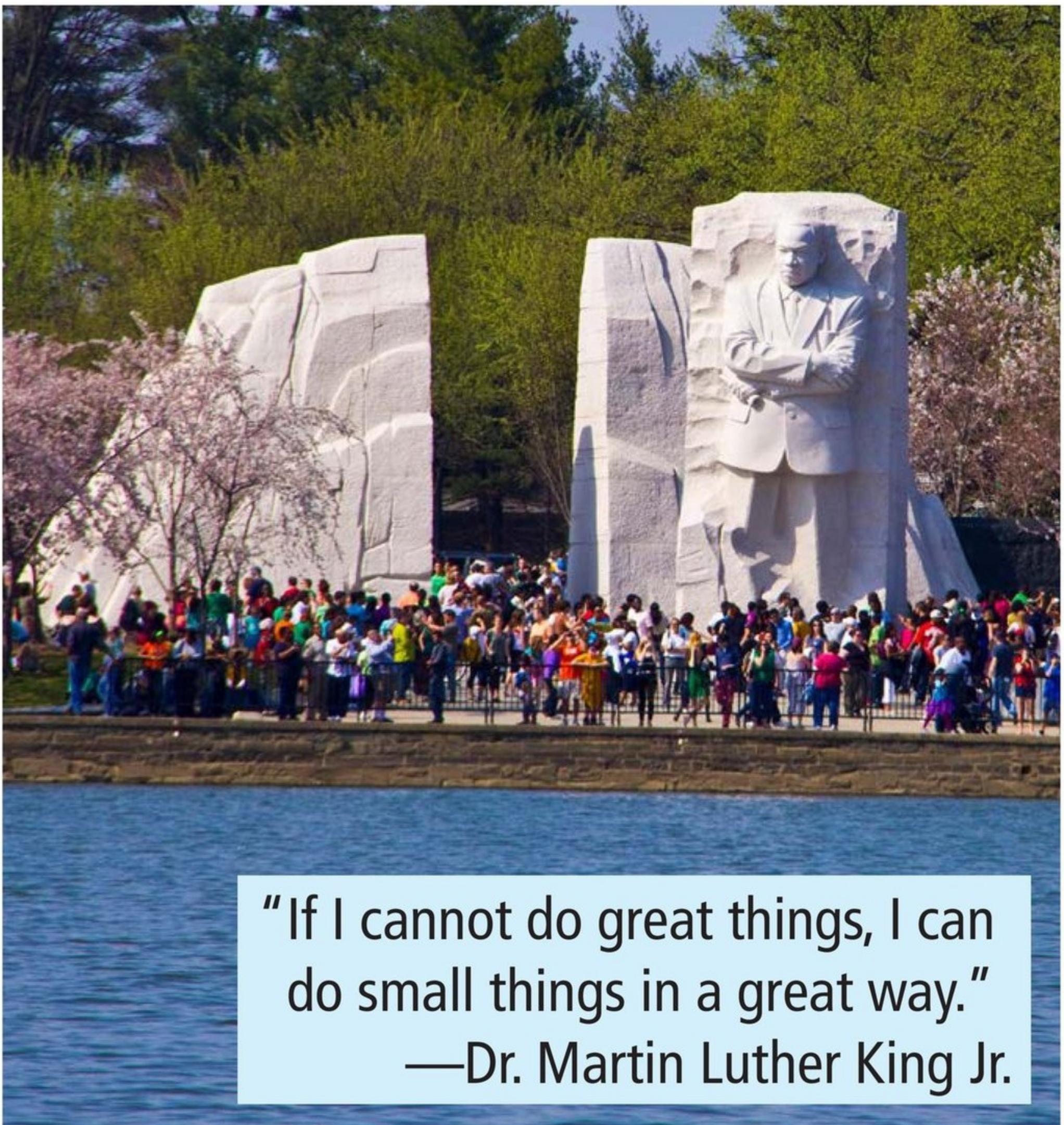


Dr. King waves to the crowd in Washington, D.C., before he gives an important speech.

## **Dr. King's Dream**

Dr. King wanted all people to be free.  
He wanted the laws to be fair  
for everyone.

He dreamed that people of every  
color would get along.



“If I cannot do great things, I can  
do small things in a great way.”  
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

We remember Dr. King when we visit  
the memorial in Washington, D.C.  
We remember his dream  
of fair laws and free people.  
We carry on the work that  
Dr. King began.

## Glossary

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>fair</b> (adj.)     | just, right, or proper<br>(p. 6)  |
| <b>laws</b> (n.)       | rules made by a government (p. 6)   |
| <b>marched</b> (v.)    | walked with other people to show support (p. 11)                                |
| <b>memorial</b> (n.)   | something that stands for the memory of a person, place, thing, or event (p. 4) |
| <b>peaceful</b> (adj.) | without fighting (p. 10)  |
| <b>separate</b> (adj.) | set or kept apart (p. 7)  |

# Dr. King's Memorial

A *Reading A-Z Level H Leveled Book*

Word Count: 250

## Connections

### Writing and Art

Write a paragraph about why it was important for Dr. King to make changes in a peaceful way.

### Social Studies

Learn more about Dr. King's life. Make a timeline that includes five important events from his life.



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