

1959

- Visited India to study Mohandas Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence.
- Resigns from pastoring the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church to concentrate on civil rights full time. He moved to Atlanta to direct the activities of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.



1960

- Becomes co-pastor with his father at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta.
- Lunch counter sit-ins began in Greensboro, N. C. In Atlanta, King is arrested during a sit-in waiting to be served at a restaurant. He is sentenced to four months in jail, but after intervention

*And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular: but one must take it because it is right.*

-- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



by John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, he is released.

- Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee founded to coordinate protests at Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C.

1961

- In November, the Interstate Commerce Commission bans segregation in interstate travel due to work of Martin Luther King Jr. and the Freedom Riders.
- Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) began first Freedom Ride through the South, in a Greyhound bus, after the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed segregation in interstate transportation.



1962

- During the unsuccessful Albany, Ga. movement, King is arrested on July 27 and jailed.

1963

- On Good Friday, April 12, King is arrested with Ralph Abernathy by Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor for demonstrating without a permit.
- On April 13, the Birmingham campaign is launched. This would prove to be the turning point in the war to end segregation in the South.
- During the 11 days he spent in jail, MLK writes his famous "Letter from Birmingham Jail."
- On May 10, the Birmingham agreement is announced. The stores, restaurants, and schools will be desegregated, hiring of blacks implemented, and charges dropped.
- On June 23, MLK leads 125,000 people on a Freedom Walk in Detroit.



continued ▼ on page 20

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Salutes

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