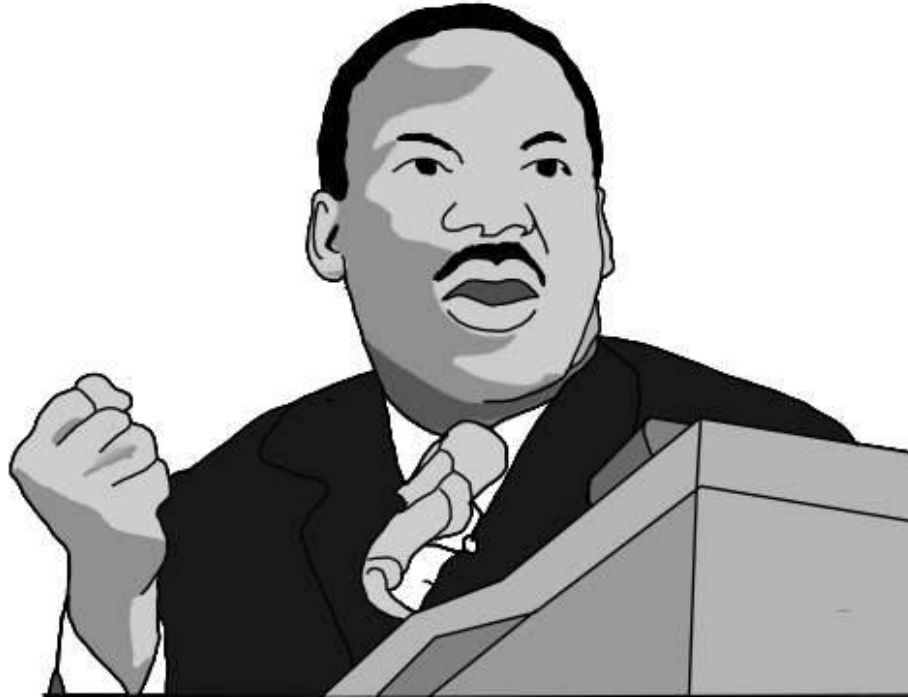


1. Who is Martin Luther King, Jr.?
2. Did he ask people to fight enemies or to forgive them? Why?
3. Tell or write what you know.



4. Read the story "Peace and Forgiveness" and talk about the new words.

Peace and Forgiveness

Jesus was a teacher. He loved all people. He taught about God. He had no sin. Some people did not like his teaching. He was arrested for his teaching, but he did not **commit a crime**.



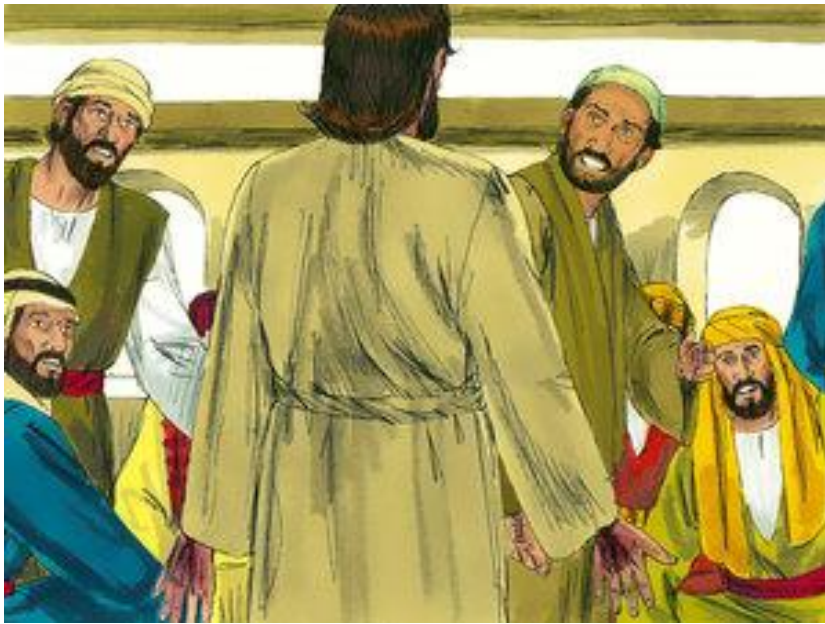
There was a **tradition** where the authorities brought two men in front of the people. The people could choose to let one man go free. The authorities asked the crowd of people who should go free, Jesus or the criminal. The crowd chose the criminal and told the authorities to **crucify** Jesus.

Jesus was put on a cross between two criminals. People laughed at Jesus. Jesus had the power to free himself, but he stayed there. One of the criminals said to leave Jesus alone because he did not do anything wrong. Jesus told that man, "Surely, today you will be with me in **heaven**."

Jesus was in a lot of pain. He **suffered** on the cross. He was held to the cross with nails that went through his hands and feet.

Jesus did not fight. He had power from God, but he let the people **crucify** him. He prayed for his **enemies**. He said, “God, forgive them, they know not what they do.”

He died, but came to life a couple days later. It was a **miracle!** He found his followers. His followers saw him and touched his hands. They saw that his hands were healed. He taught them. He was taken up to heaven in front of them. He is coming back!



Martin Luther King, Jr. says, “Love your enemies and forgive them” because Jesus said, “Love your enemies and forgive them.” MLK followed the example of Jesus. Anyone, from any nation, can have peace and forgiveness from God.

Jesus said, “If you **confess** your sin, God is faithful to forgive and **purify** us”.

Word List

peace = to not fight with people

tradition = something that a group of people do regularly

enemy = someone who hates you or tries to do wrong to you

commit a crime = to do something against the law

sin = bad things people think or do

heaven = the place where God is

suffer = to feel a lot of pain

follow, follower = like a student, learn from someone and do as they do

purify = to make clean, or to have no sin

violence = to hurt someone else

miracle = something man can't do, only God can do

resurrection = someone dies and comes back to life

confess = tell someone all the bad things you think and do

1. Read the Somali words. What words do they match above?

cafiyo dembi mucjiso nabad cadowga

2. Number the above words in alphabetical order.

What is Easter Really About?

There is a holiday in spring called “Easter”. During Easter, you see children looking for colorful eggs. You can see candy decorated as rabbits and chicks. But this day is not really about rabbits, eggs, or spring. Those things are fun for children. It is really about peace and forgiveness, and celebrating the **resurrection** of Jesus.

Jesus is called “The Lamb of God”. During Jesus' time, there was a **tradition**. People would take and kill a sheep for the wrong things they have done, to **purify**. This is called a sacrifice. But they had to keep repeating it again and again. Jesus is the only one with no sin, a perfect sacrifice. Now no sacrifice is needed. People only need to believe and ask God for forgiveness.

Lesson Suggestions:

This is a conceptual story, rather than a straight telling. It is recommended that it be used as a storytelling companion. Tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection out loud and go to bible.is to listen in Somali.

Show the picture of MLK and ask the student what he or she already knows. You share what you know, including the part about him praying and not fighting his enemies. Ask the student why he did that. After reading, ask the question of "why" again.

Start with the word list. Have the student refer back to it while reading if he or she forgets what one of the words in bold means.

Red Cross Symbol: Most refugees will recognize this as a symbol of "help". Bring a copy to show the student as a way to introduce the cross. Ask, "What does this mean?" You might get a response that it means "Help" to them and that they have seen this in Africa.

Extension

Option 1: Ask, "What do you think about the story?" "Do you want to hear another story about Jesus' teaching?"

Option 2: The "What is Easter Really About?" page is for those who you have been able to talk with about sin and sacrifice before. Muslims do not believe that sacrifice is necessary, so pray about whether or not your friend is ready. If not ready, do option 1, but here are some ideas for building the concept of sin: give personal testimony and examples, talk about bad things we see in the news, the idea that how can we know if we have ever done enough good things to counter the bad, and share parables illustrating sin.