

I Have a Dream...

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave a moving speech about equality at the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963. Keyline parts of the speech below; then use the next page to illustrate his dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four 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.

... where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plains, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

And if America is to live a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring from the prodigious hills of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the rolling hills of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the sun-dappled hills of Colorado!
Let freedom ring from the sunburned parks of California!
But not only that: let freedom ring from the snowcapped mountains of Oregon!
Let freedom ring from the Lukens Mountain of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from every hill and every moorhill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Christians, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"