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Mercy MOMENTS

Mercy Partners

*opening the
door to a world
where the
healing,
liberating and
life-giving
mercy of
God is
experienced*

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People of Mercy



Martin Luther King Jr was an American Baptist minister, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, humanitarian, advocate for the poor and leader of the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He was assassinated in 1968. His message of love and human freedom was not welcome in many parts of the United States although today, some fifty years later, he is regarded as a national hero. Martin Luther King Jr is a symbol of peace and non violent protest and his speech, 'I have a dream' is one of the best known statements of hope in the face of injustice. This statement is less well-known but it captures the heart of mercy – the importance of honouring God in all things (*agape*).

“The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opposers into friends. The type of love that I stress here is not *eros*, a sort of aesthetic or romantic love; not *philia*, a sort of reciprocal love between personal friends; but it is *agape* which is understanding goodwill for all men. It is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return. It is the love of God working in the lives of men. This is the love that may well be the salvation of our civilisation.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr

REFLECTION

‘An overflowing of love which seeks nothing in return.’

- > Do you agree with Luther King Jr that *agape* love will save our civilisation?
- > How is love evident in your day to day work?

COMPASSION JUSTICE RESPECT HOPE

