A Current Multi-Cultural Reality Envisioned by Dr. King

Soong-Chan Rah, D.Min., Th.D.
Rev. Dr. Rah is a professor of church growth and evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary, speaker and author.


Soong-Chan received his B.A. in Political Science and History/Sociology from Columbia University, his M.Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, his Th.M. from Harvard University, his D.Min. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and his Th.D. from Duke University.

Rah is formerly the founding Senior Pastor of the Cambridge Community Fellowship Church (CCFC), a multi-ethnic, urban ministry-focused church committed to living out the values of racial reconciliation and social justice in the urban context.
Let us be dissatisfied until America will no longer have a high blood pressure of creeds and an anemia of deeds.

Let us be dissatisfied until the tragic walls that separate the outer city of wealth and comfort from the inner city of poverty and despair shall be crushed by the battering rams of the forces of justice.

Let us be dissatisfied until those who live on the outskirts of hope are brought into the metropolis of daily security.

Let us be dissatisfied until slums are cast into the junk heaps of history, and every family will live in a decent, sanitary home.

Let us be dissatisfied until the dark yesterdays of segregated schools will be transformed into bright tomorrows of quality integrated education.

Let us be dissatisfied until integration is not seen as a problem but as an opportunity to participate in the beauty of diversity.

Let us be dissatisfied until men and women, however black they may be, will be judged not on the basis of the content of their character, not on the basis of the color of their skin, but on the basis of the content of their character, not on the basis of the color of their skin.

Let us be dissatisfied. Let us be dissatisfied until every state capital will be housed by a governor who will do justly, who will love mercy, and who will walk humbly with his God.

Let us be dissatisfied until every city hall, justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Let us be dissatisfied until that day when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and every man will sit under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid.

Let us be dissatisfied, and men will recognize that out of one blood God made all men to dwell upon the face of the earth.

Let us be dissatisfied until that day when nobody will shout, "White Power!" when nobody will shout, "Black Power!" but everybody will talk about God's power and human power.

And I must confess, my friends, that the road ahead will not always be smooth. There will still be rocky places of frustration and meandering points of bewilderment. There will be inevitable setbacks here and there. And there will be those moments when the buoyancy of hope will be transformed into the fatigue of despair. Our dreams will sometimes be shattered and our ethereal hopes blasted. We may again, with tear-drenched eyes, have to stand before the bier of some courageous civil rights worker whose life will be snuffed out by the dastardly acts of bloodthirsty mobs. But difficult and painful as it is, we must walk on in the days ahead with an audacious faith in the future.

When our days become dreary with low-hoarding clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. Let us realize that the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.

Let us be dissatisfied unti
Featured Student Entries and Reflections

by Makiyah Anderson, Grade 1

by RJ Brown, Grade 2

by Emyrie Williams, Grade 3

by Callope Pfab, Grade 4

by Damari Becker, Kindergarten


Chained and shackled,
Slain and tackled.
Stolen from our land only to be subject to oppression.
A recipe for depression but when we overcome,
punished for our transgressions.
But we don’t fall to your suppression,
We’ll keep fighting all you’ll see is progression.
I thank all my ancestors for their bravery,
Down to the first ones who fell victim to slavery,
their broken souls, so savory.
The white man’s hate fueled our passion to be freed
It was up to us to play our cards and take the lead
Jamila Jones born ’44, we’re already free from slavery
but she wanted more.
So, from her heart she poured, and with her mouth
she roared.
Knowing that there was need for improvement,
formed a singing trio to help fund the movement.
Boycotted the buses in Montgomery,
Founded singing activists’ group the Harambee’s.
Helped the freedom writers get the job done,
Wrote the new verse of We Shall Overcome.
Fought for our rights, sang for our freedom,
our people under uncivil laws and they freed him.

by Scotty Stowers, Grade 5


by Mariah Stephenson, Grade 12

MARTIN LUTHER KING – A PRINCIPLE OF NONVIOLENCE

There is no reason for us to hate,
We need to think of that before it’s too late.
Martin Luther King used the six principles of nonviolence,
And with that formed an alliance.
“Let freedom ring.”**
Your race shouldn’t be the reason you’re denied
from something.
But now, looking around we see much hatred,
The amount of dislike has greatly elevated.
Why should we return the hate?
Don’t! Don’t hesitate.
Now is the time, that we need to state,
That nonviolence chooses love instead of hate.**

* “Let freedom ring” – from the I Have A Dream speech, by Martin Luther King.
** Nonviolence chooses love instead of hate – One of the Six principles of nonviolence followed by Martin Luther King.

by Saanvi Ram, Grade 7


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Chained and shackled,
Slain and tackled.
Made it through the rain,
watered us like flowers
We rose up and still overcame.
now’s the time that we all need to take a stand
Make some change for every child woman and man
All this injustice and hate, I promise we’ll diminish
My ancestors started but we must finish.

by Mariah Stephenson, Grade 12


by Rachel McDonough, Grade 8
Youth Mentoring Groups

MENTOR DUBUQUE | Hillcrest Family Services
Mentor Dubuque is a youth mentoring program that matches children between 5 and 15 with an adult, 18 or older. Mentors and youth meet every other week for a couple of hours to take walks, shoot hoops, bake, share pizza or other fun activities.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: hillcrest-fs.org/services/youth-mentoring

STUDENT MENTORING | Dubuque Community Schools
Mentors in the Dubuque Community School District provide consistent support, guidance, and concrete help to a student who is in need of a positive role model. Visits are usually done during the lunch period at the school.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.dbqschools.org/district/programs/student-mentoring

DUBUQUE BLACK MEN COALITION
Members of the Dubuque Black Men Coalition offer role models and advice to teen boys in the Tri-States. The program aims to teach teens how to create a sense of empowerment, self-esteem, and combat ignorance while providing motivation to change behavior in a healthy way.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/Dubuque-Black-Men-Coalition-193679937487504

DUBUQUE DREAM CENTER
Student mentoring is provided at the Dubuque Dream Center for students in grades 3-8. Mentoring is offered after school during the school year, and also during normal operating hours over the summer.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.dubuquedreamcenter.com or 563/845-7591

MULTICULTURAL FAMILY CENTER
The Multicultural Family Center (MFC) provides several youth empowerment programs including weekly Teen Nights, a bi-monthly Sisters United Empowerment Coalition (SUEC) Mentoring Program for Girls, a monthly LGBTQ+ Youth Group, weekly Little Luxuries Girls Club, and Math & Science Tutoring Program for students in grades 8-12.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.mfcdbq.org or 563/582-3681

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