

MARTIN LUTHER KING & THE WHITE BOY

Did you ever wish you could go back in time and do something over again? You know, *“if I had to do it again, I would...”* kind of thing? I’m sure we’ve all had this thought at one time or another. Either we want to go back to make a “wrong,” “right”, or relive a memory and do a few things different to make it even more memorable, or, go back and be a part of history, something that changed the lives of millions of people.

For me, if I had to do it again, I would want to go back and be part of the civil rights movement of the 60’s. I was a boy back then and really couldn’t grasp the magnitude of what was going on. I wish I had. To go back and play just a small part of the movement would settle my soul considerably. To do something, anything, make a contribution in some small way. Maybe to sit on the Freedom Rider’s bus. Or to help carry one of the 4 coffins of the little girls who were killed in the 1964 bombing of a Baptist church. Or to sit next to one of the Little Rock 9 in school and be a comfort to him or her.



Or maybe be in the Washington audience listening to the “I Have a Dream Speech” of Martin Luther King. Or be close enough to help hold the arm of the father of Dr. King to keep him from falling when

he was overcome with grief at his son’s funeral. Something; anything. That moment was a moment in time. One of which could never be duplicated. One of which we will never see the likes of again. One of which has died with Dr. King. That moment; that special period of time. That great cause that gave hope to so many. Oh how this “white boy” wished he had been there when it counted. I guess we never realize the full impact current events have on people until the events becomes history.

For you young people today, it’s something to think about. Maybe, just maybe, you are living through a time in which years from you will look back and say, **“you know, if I had to do it over again, I would want to go back and...”**. Hopefully that won’t happen. Hopefully you will look around and realize that your time is now. That cause you feel strongly about or that passion you have to make a difference in a certain area of society; that moment is now. I hope you, unlike I, will not let this “moment” slip through your fingers. “If only I would have” are 5 of the most regrettable words a person could say.