QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

A Resource for “Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.: Faith & Nonviolent Protest”

1. What, if anything, surprised you?

2. What was it about Gandhi’s philosophy of nonviolence that resonated with King?
   a. Does the passage quoted in the fact sheet from King’s autobiography resonate with your religious and/or secular beliefs?
   b. Why or why not?

3. President Kennedy thought King’s tactics were too radical, while Malcom X thought they weren’t radical enough.
   a. What do you think about King’s methods and why?
   b. Are there civil rights issues today where leaders similar to President Kennedy and Malcom X take opposing views?

4. Do you think nonviolence can be an effective way to create change today? Why or why not?

5. Name one way you can affect change through nonviolent protest in a conflict that is familiar to you.

6. Look at Tanenbaum’s resource Reflections on Nonviolence. What, if any, similarities do you notice about different faiths’ attitudes toward nonviolence? What, if any, differences?

7. Marches continue to be used to advocate for change. Identify one march during the past 10 years, in the U.S. or abroad, and explain way(s) the march was similar to how King used marches to challenge injustice. Explain a way it was different.
   a. How has the invention of social media impacted nonviolent protesting?

8. Reviving King’s Poor People’s Campaign made headlines in 2017 several times, and it has already made news in 2018. Find two of these recent news articles.
   a. Do you think the campaign is still relevant today, 50 years later? Why or why not?
   b. In what ways is the ‘revival’ of the campaign similar to King’s original objectives?
   c. In what ways is it different?