

Memories from scenes on a black and white Zenith TV in 1963

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31(NIV)

Dreams cannot be limited by the ideas of others. We are free to openly explore, expand, and live the dreams we hold important. Each of us are given the task by the Christ to love all people in every walk of life, and to love as He loved. The Apostle Paul wrote to the converts in Corinth “Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.” (1 Corinthians 13:8) Paul continued by describing love as “patient” and “kind”. He went on to share with the struggling believers what love is *not*. Love does not “envy” nor “boast” nor be “proud” nor “dishonor others”. The list goes on in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Read them on you own. Internalize them. Spread the word.

Admittedly I was a naïve teenager and country boy on May 3, 1963. The televised images of firehoses and dogs attacking people of God were then, and are now, engrained in Zenith black and white TV pictures from my fourteen-year-old soul, mind, and body. I’m confident that dreams of love are not altered even when the dreamer is blasted by conflicting stories from the expanses of media. With some confidence I can say our imagination manifests results and allows us to create good with courage through faith in the Divine. Whatever we aspire to do, the task or belief will be accomplished through the God given power within you and me.

The Teddy brain has been recalling events from August 1963 when Dr. Martin Luther King so emphatically, poetically, and passionately delivered the words “I have a dream”. I believe Dr. King was a visionary who sought to see to love in all. In addition to MLK’s words, it was John Lennon’s 1971 song “Imagine” that invited listeners to envision a world in which we live in worldwide peace with humankind. The words from Lennon’s song speak of courage and move me to action in writing and speaking, and more ardently in personal and communal prayers.

<i>Imagine no possessions</i>	<i>I wonder if you can</i>
<i>No need for greed or hunger</i>	<i>A brotherhood of man</i>
<i>Imagine all the people</i>	<i>Sharing all the world</i>
<i>You may say I’m a dreamer</i>	<i>But I’m not the only one</i>
<i>I hope someday you’ll join us</i>	<i>And the world will live as one</i>

(“Imagine” by John Lennon – October 11, 1971)

King and Lennon, two men different in nationality and race, but each wrote and delivered powerful messages of peace and love and unity. They are two men who voiced their desire to see the world free of violence and hate. They are two men repeating thoughts and messages from Jesus Christ. Tragically both died from assassin’s bullets. And then there is the cross.

May God be with us and grant us courage to speak out for peace and love for all people throughout the world.

Peace always,

Ted