



DAY THREE

Bonnie Slyn and David Ball

In a world now frequently experienced via Zoom, nothing can replace being in person. To stand in the same spot where Rosa Parks waited to board the bus. To look into the eyes of Miss Linda, who experienced unspeakable horror yet survived with an indomitable spirit for life.

To walk side by side on the Edmund Pettis bridge and literally feel the weight of history beneath our feet and deep in our souls. As we heard so eloquently today, there's unity in community.

It's difficult to express the range of emotions in these past couple of days. We need time to

fully process. In the meanwhile, here are some impressions of Day 2 of this extraordinary experience:

Segregation is way more than being separated – it's about the humiliation of being dehumanized.

Civil disobedience is the paradox of maintaining the highest level of dignity against the worst inhuman treatment.

The inspiring ingenuity of the oppressed - creating their own transportation system.

You don't always have to change minds – economic impact gets results too

Leadership means both words and actions. MLK and Abernathy rode those buses to show it was ok. Reverend Warnock gets his vaccinations on the pulpit.

Heroes have courage. Courage beyond comprehension.

Education is the antidote to so many of the world's challenges – whether one on one in an Uber or in an integrated classroom or training a work force to create economic opportunities in towns left behind.

There are also some lessons learned in thinking about ourselves and our own actions:

Step up now. Don't wait to create change. Even if you don't think you're ready to be a leader. MLK was 25 when appointed to lead the bus boycott. He was assassinated at age 39.

In a world of sometimes incomprehensible hate, meet that radical hate with radical love.

Keep history from repeating itself.

Find a way to put the human back into humanity.

Be a feeder. A simple hug can change someone's world.

Vote. If not for yourself, then for those who put themselves in harm's way to ensure our right to that privilege.

Most importantly, we shall overcome. We shall overcome someday. Deep in our hearts, we do believe. We shall overcome someday.

Bonnie and David

