

Children's sermon: January 17, 2010  
"A truck named MARTIN"

Do you know why you don't have school tomorrow????? ....  
Right ----- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday!!

What a man he was!! Yes ---- he wanted equal rights and justice for all people .... no matter their  
color or race!@!!

Reminds me of a truck I know ... and another little truck named Fred.

Fred is over here ----- a cute little blue truck.

But as you can see .... his world is UPSIDE DOWN. At school ... the other trucks make fun of him because he  
is blue. For some reason ... they don't like blue trucks.

Everyday ... other trucks call Fred names ... they talk about him ... so Fred spends almost all his time  
by himself.

One day ... a big new truck comes to school. In fact ... he is so big ... he pulls a trailer along with him.

This truck is blue, too ... his name is MARTIN.

Martin is big ... he is blue ... he is strong ... and he is gentle.

But ----- he doesn't take any guff from anyone. And he doesn't like it one bit ... when he sees someone who is  
put down because they look different or think different.

Martin is riding down the hallway ... trailer and all ... and he almost bumps into this upside-down truck.

Fred is sad ... and he tells Martin his story.

Martin looks around at all the other trucks ... "is this true???? ... is this how you treat Fred????"

SILENCE ... STONE-COLD SILENCE!!

Martin looks at Fred with a strong-but-gentle smile:

*"First of all ... I'm gonna turn you right-side up. Now ... you may need some help and support for a while.*

*So, you don't have to ride up-and-down these hallways all by yourself.*

*Climb in ... I will carry you. Then ... when you get strong and feel better ... you can  
carry others whose world is upside-down."*

Fred smiles for the first time in a long while.

His world is changing. Not only his world ... but the other trucks' worlds as well.

Thanks to people like Martin ... they know it's NOT OK to put others down ----- because of their race,  
because of their color, because they are different.

Each one of us is unique and special.

It's how God makes us ... creates us ... and loves us.

Think about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. tomorrow. He made a big difference in our world.  
Here is your very own big blue truck ----- a reminder to you and to all of us ... there are times when we need  
to carry others ... when their world is upside-down.