| Found! New Words From Dr. King |
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| **Article**  Lexile 850  image  *Photo credit:* AP  *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. encouraged the use of peaceful methods to bring about change in the world.*  **CHATTANOOGA, Tennessee** (Achieve3000, December 8, 2012). Stephon Tull was looking through old boxes in his father's attic in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He came across something amazing. It was an audio tape with these words on it: "Dr. King interview, December 21, 1960."  When he listened to the tape, Tull was stunned. He heard crisp, clear audio of his father interviewing civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. The interview was done for a book project. Tull said his father, now 80, had planned to write about the racism he had faced in his life. The book was never written, however. Tull said the tape had been sitting in the attic for years. He wasn't sure if anyone had ever heard the recording until the recent discovery.  "No words can describe," Tull said. "I couldn't believe it. I found…a lost part of history."  Dr. King worked to bring about change in the world. On the tape, he discusses those efforts. He also predicts how important the civil rights movement would be. At that time, the movement was starting to grow in the U.S.  "I am convinced that…historians will have to record this movement as one of the greatest [periods in our history]," Dr. King says on the taped interview.  Dr. King was murdered in 1968. Right up until that time, he encouraged the use of non-violent methods to bring about change in the world. The civil rights leader practiced what he preached. He led non-violent protests. He also led non-violent marches and sit-ins. During the interview with Tull's father, King talked about how he viewed non-violence.  "If one is truly non-violent, that person has a loving spirit," Dr. King said.  King had visited Africa about a month before the interview. On the tape, he discussed African leaders' views of the racial problems in the United States at the time.  "I think [African leaders] agree that in the United States we must solve this problem of racial injustice if we expect to [remain a leader] in the world," Dr. King said.  Raymond Winbush is a historian. He said the tape is an important piece of long-lost history. There are very few recordings of King, Winbush said, that detail his activity in Africa.  "It's clear that in this tape when he's talking…about Africa, he saw this as a global human rights movement that would [encourage other] groups around the world," said Winbush. "That to me is what's remarkable about the tape."  U.S. Representative John Lewis once served as the head of a student civil rights group. During this time, he worked with Dr. King. Like Winbush, Lewis is excited about the recording.  "To…hear his voice and listen to his words was so moving," said Lewis. "I wish people all over America, all over the world, can hear this message over and over again."  Tull is working with a history expert. They hope to arrange a sale of the tape to a proper home.  *The Associated Press contributed to this story.*    **Dictionary**   |  | | --- | | **assassinate** *(verb)*    to murder someone, usually to gain money or power | | **contemporary** *(noun)*    a person who is of the same time period | | **non-violent** *(adjective)*    peaceful; not causing harm to others | | **reel-to-reel** *(noun)*    a form of audio recording in which sound is stored on an open reel, instead of within a cassette, commonly used in the 1950s and 1960s | | **significant** *(adjective)*    important | |