

As you read, look for these **words** in the text. Use the surrounding writing to make an educated guess about the meaning of the words. Write your educated guess on this form, or on another piece of paper. Later on, after you have finished this work, find the word in the dictionary and find the meaning that is closest to the one used in this story. Write it down.

Word	definition - educated guess	dictionary definition
leader		
rights		
poor		
shack		
different		
patience		
Apartheid		

Archbishop Desmond Tutu



When he was nine years old, Desmond Tutu was given a worn out copy of a magazine. Looking at the pages, he discovered the story of Jackie Robinson—the first black man to play major league baseball. Desmond was excited. He did not know what the sport of baseball was because baseball was not played in his country, but he saw a story of a strong, brave man who had the same color skin as he did. It made him feel good about himself.

Desmond was born in South Africa in 1931. He lived a very small house in a poor town called Klerksdorp (*pronounced klerks'dOrp*). His father was a teacher, and his mother was a cook. As a black family, they did not have the same **rights** as white people. South Africa had a type of government called **Apartheid** (*pronounced a-part-tide*) that separated black and white people.

Black people were treated badly, just because of the color of their skin. Young black children like Desmond did not have the chance to go to good schools, live in nice houses, or do any of the other things that white children were allowed to do. Things were very unfair and this was sad.

Because his family was **poor**, Desmond had to use his imagination in order to have fun. He would build his own toys and play games with other children. He read books, magazines and comic strips. On Saturdays, he went fishing with his father. He had a hard time sitting still and being patient while his father fished, but he liked being with him. He especially liked going fishing with his father because he got to ride on his father's bicycle.

Desmond's mother did not get to go to school when she was growing up, but she was one of Desmond's greatest teachers. She was very caring and always tried to do things for people who needed help. Young Desmond looked a lot like his mother. They even had similar noses.

When he was a teenager, Desmond became very sick. He had a disease called tuberculosis. His lungs were filled with bacteria, and he almost died. He had to be in the hospital for almost two years. While Desmond was in the hospital, a nice man named Trevor Huddleston came to visit him very often. Trevor was a priest. He was also a white man.

No white person had ever treated Desmond with respect or had cared about him. Being treated badly just because of the color of his skin made Desmond feel like he was not a special person, but Trevor made him feel special. Desmond grew very fond of Trevor and enjoyed their visits. To him, Trevor was an example of kindness and **patience**.

After Desmond got better, he went back to school and decided that he wanted to be a teacher just like his father. After he became a teacher, he discovered that he did not agree with the education that black people received. It was called "Bantu" education, and it was not as good as the education that white people received. The black children were not allowed to learn science or math. This made Desmond very angry. He remembered his good friend Trevor Huddleston. He thought that maybe he should become a priest and help people like Trevor did. So Desmond left his teaching job and became a priest. He wanted to be a **leader** for his people.

TROUBLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Things in South Africa were very bad. White people owned most of the land. They lived in nice houses, had clean neighborhoods, and plenty of good food. Most Black people lived in little tin **shacks** with no water or electricity. They did not have enough food. The neighborhoods that the black people lived in were full of trash and very dangerous.

Black people could not get jobs and they had to carry a “pass” with them. This pass had their fingerprints and their picture on it. They had to have their “pass” with them at all times. If they were caught without the pass, they were arrested and put in jail. This was very unfair because white people did not have to carry a pass, and could go wherever they wanted at any time.

Desmond wanted people in South Africa to not judge others because of the color of their skin. He knew that being **different** was not a bad thing and that if everyone was the same, the world would be very boring! He knew that everyone was different so that we could learn from each other.

As his mother taught him, Desmond helped people who were sick and suffering and who could not speak for themselves. Desmond was becoming a leader for his people. Desmond Tutu decided that he needed to help make South Africa a better place for all of the people who lived there. In order to do that, he needed to show people throughout the world the horrible things that were happening in his country. He worked with local churches to speak out against the Apartheid government. He led peaceful marches and protests. This means he had people walk or sit outside of government buildings holding signs and chanting things like, “equal rights for all people.” He also helped people in other countries understand what life was like in South Africa.

Then Desmond Tutu called for sanctions against South Africa. This means that he asked other countries to stop buying things from South Africa. He hoped this would make life hard for the government leaders in South Africa then maybe they would change the laws so that they were fair to black people.

WORKING FOR PEACE

Desmond Tutu won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for the nonviolent ways he stood up for the South African people. He used many peaceful strategies to help solve the problems in South Africa. For example, Desmond Tutu chose to use his words to solve problems rather than fighting. He refused to use the unfair passes that were given to black people in South Africa, and he talked to groups about making South Africa a peaceful place. When Desmond got angry about the unfair situation in South Africa, he didn't hurt others or use violence. Instead, he worked hard to make South Africa a better place for everyone to live.

HOW THINGS ARE TODAY

In 1990, Apartheid ended and black people finally had equal rights. Today, things are much better in South Africa. Desmond Tutu's hard work helped to end the unfair treatment of black people. Now no one has to carry a pass anymore. Black people can get better jobs, own land, and black children can go to good schools.

But many black people are still very angry because they were treated badly for so long. Many white people are also angry because they now have to share the land and power with the black people. Desmond Tutu is teaching people how to control their anger and solve their problems with nonviolence. He is also helping people forgive and have patience with each other. The “Rainbow People” of South Africa – black and white – are learning how to work and live together peacefully.

Answer these questions, supporting your answer with details from the story above.

1. *Why did it make Desmond Tutu sad that black people were treated badly?*
2. *Why was Desmond's mother one of his greatest teachers?*
3. *Why did Desmond stop being a teacher and become a priest?*
4. *How would you feel if you had to carry a pass everywhere you went?*
5. *Why does Desmond Tutu think the world would be boring if everyone was the same?*
6. *How would “sanctions” make life hard for the South African government? [example: if people did not buy products from South Africa, then the government would lose money]*
7. *What did Desmond Tutu do to solve problems peacefully? [example: protests, marches, educating other countries, sanctions]*

On this map, please clearly mark the country where Archbishop Desmond Tutu lived.

