



Black Wall Street & the Tulsa Race Massacre

Critical Thinking & Discussion Questions

Did you know that American Indian tribes owned slaves? If not, why do you think this information is little known?

What do you know about the Ku Klux Klan? Why was membership secret? Why did they form? Did they only target Blacks? How did they operate? Do they still exist? What ended their power?

The precipitating event that set off the race riots involved an unclear incident that led to widespread rumors and mob action. Can you think of any other historical incidents that started as something rather minor that spiraled out of control? What about events in your own life?

Have you ever seen something get “blown out of proportion” and get out of hand? Why do you think this sometimes happens? What can or should be done to prevent this from happening?

What accidental role did WWI play in the way events transpired in Tulsa?

Do you think that mobs of people sometimes behave differently than the individuals might, if they were alone? Why do you think this happens?

Very few of the assailants and perpetrators were ever identified or brought to justice after the Tulsa massacre. Why do you think this is so?

What lessons can be learned from the Tulsa riots and massacre and from the rebuilding efforts? How can such an incident be prevented in the future?

What is the best way to respond to injustice? What would MLK say? What about different faith traditions?