

Civil Rights Movement

16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING



16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING

THE BOMBING

On a somber Sunday...



Block ticked past 10:24 am, church's east side, The explosion sent rising significant damage with some inferior walls people were present To evacuate smallest young girls lost their 14 years old, Denise 8-year-old sister, Over 20 others was not on isolated weeks Following a Alabama's school on but resembled of the burning church need consulting to

16th, Birmingham, Alabama, rapidly emerged and commercial center. However, it's overshadowed by deep-rooted racial segregation during the tumultuous 1960s. For racial segregation in Birmingham, Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor gained notoriety as one of the most segregated cities, hosting a violent 1956 riot. The city's police commissioner, Eugene "Bull" Connor, used riot tactics against demonstrators, earning notorious nicknames "Bull" and "The Butcher" for his intense segregationist policies.

Birmingham, Alabama, was a symbol of the "Second Reconstruction" and a pivotal city for the Civil Rights Movement. The 16th Street Baptist Church was a central hub for the church's activities and a beacon of hope and resistance against racial injustice. Little did the congregation know that, tragically, the church itself would become a target for one of the most devastating acts of violence during the civil rights era—the bombing of September 6, 1956.

The 16th Street Baptist Church faced continual threats from the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), who sought to disrupt meetings and services through bomb threats. Despite the challenges, the church remained a beacon of hope and resistance against racial injustice.

16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING

Comprehension Questions

IONS: CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

1. Who was the governor of Alabama during the 1950s?
 a. Martin Luther King Jr.
 b. George Wallace
 c. Eugene "Bull" Connor
 d. J. Edgar Hoover

2. What did Eugene "Bull" Connor advocate for?
 a. Social integration
 b. Social segregation
 c. Civil rights
 d. Desegregation

3. What organization frequently disrupted meetings at the 16th Street Baptist Church with bomb threats?
 a. Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)
 b. Ku Klux Klan (KKK)
 c. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
 d. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

NO-PREP & EDITABLE

READING COMPREHENSION

READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

Ready to Print &
Editable



hope and resistance age know that, tragically, it of the most devastating the bombing of September

THE BOMBING

On a somber Sunday, the 16th Street Baptist of hope and activism, of devastating turn of an Day at the church, and gathered for the Sun's basement. Five young



age in 11 to unite mo to col dur Fat live Mo

year-old Cynthia West survived but suffered sustained injuries in the incident but the Federal court order system, the outrage across the United S and the tragic loss of the ongoing Fight fo

OUTRAGE AND A

The bombing trigger nationwide. Governor protests, resulted Reverend Martin L. Funeral, intensifyin children.

INVESTIGATION

The FBI arrested a Robert Chambliss, Robert Hoover

16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING

Established in 1871, Birmingham, Alabama, rapidly emerged as a vital industrial and commercial center. However, its prosperity was overshadowed by deep-rooted racial discrimination and segregation during the tumultuous 1960s. Governor George Wallace and Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor staunchly advocated for racial segregation in Public Facilities. Birmingham gained notoriety as one of the most racially discriminatory and segregated cities, hosting a violent chapter of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK). The city's police commissioner, Connor, became infamous for his brutal tactics against demonstrators and professors, earning Birmingham the ominous nickname "Bombingham." This contentious environment set the stage for intense civil rights activism.



16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH:

Constructed in 1911, the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, emerged not only as a place of worship but as a symbol of resilience and activism during the 1960s. Located just blocks away from the city's commercial district and City Hall, this church played a pivotal role in the civil rights movement. It became a gathering point for influential leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr.



In 1963, the church witnessed a significant event known as the "Children's Crusade." Students, ranging from eight to eighteen years old, assembled at the 16th Street Baptist Church to march downtown and engage with the new mayor regarding issues of segregation. The response from the authorities was harsh, with Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor

ordering the use of fire hoses, clubs, and attack dogs to disperse the young protesters. The incident further solidified the church's significance as a rallying place for civil rights activists.

The 16th Street Baptist Church faced continual threats from the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), who sought to disrupt meetings and services through bomb threats. Despite the challenges, the church remained a beacon of

16th Street Baptist Church bombing extends its history in the pursuit of civil rights. The legacy of addressing systemic racism and to confront the deep-seated issues that is a poignant chapter in the ongoing struggle, reminding us of the resilience and "home obstacles on the path to a more

Church bombing in Birmingham in the civil rights event is significant outrage and grief on in the 16th Street Baptist Church. This surge of crucial role in the passage of landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act, reflecting a commitment to the end of racial discrimination.



16th Street Baptist Church bombing extends its history in the pursuit of civil rights. The legacy of addressing systemic racism and to confront the deep-seated issues that is a poignant chapter in the ongoing struggle, reminding us of the resilience and "home obstacles on the path to a more

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name: _____

Date: _____

16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING

Comprehension Questions

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

- In what year was Birmingham, Alabama founded?
 - 1771
 - 1871
 - 1971
 - 1671
- Who was the governor of Alabama during the 1960s?
 - Martin Luther King Jr.
 - George Wallace
 - Eugene "Bull" Connor
 - J. Edgar Hoover
- What did Eugene "Bull" Connor advocate for?
 - Racial integration
 - Racial segregation
 - Civil rights
 - Non-violence

Answers Key

MCQ'S

- What did Governor George Wallace strongly believe in the 1960s?
 - Desegregation
 - Integration
 - Racial discrimination
 - Civil rights

- Answer: C. Racial discrimination
- Which civil rights leader frequently visited Birmingham during the 1960s?
 - Rosa Parks
 - Malcolm X
 - Martin Luther King Jr.
 - Thurgood Marshall

- Answer: C. Martin Luther King Jr.
- On what day did the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church occur?
 - September 4, 1963
 - September 25, 1963
 - October 2, 1963
 - October 31, 1963

- Answer: B. September 15, 1963
- How many girls died in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church?
 - Three
 - Four
 - Five
 - Six

- Answer: B. Four
- Who spoke at the funeral for three of the girls killed in the bombing?
 - Rosa Parks
 - Malcolm X
 - Martin Luther King Jr.
 - Eugene Connor

- Answer: C. Martin Luther King Jr.
- Which Klan leader was convicted of murder in connection with the bombing?
 - Thomas Stanton
 - Robert Chambliss

c. Four

d. Five

- What was the age of Cynthia Wesley, one of the girls who died in the bombing?
 - 4 years old

Followed the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church later?

Act of 1965
1965 Act of President John F. Kennedy
abolition of Alabama's school system

Klan leader Robert E. Chambliss convicted of

b. 1963
d. 2002

the public react to the deaths of the girls in the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing?

Integration
Segregation
Non-violence

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

- the role of Birmingham, Alabama, during the 1960s and its role in the civil rights movement.
- the importance of the 16th Street Baptist Church in the civil rights movement and its role as a gathering place for activists.
- The events surrounding the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, including the day it occurred, the number of victims, and the aftermath.
- the impact of the bombing on public sentiment and the subsequent actions taken by the government, including the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- the delayed justice for the perpetrators of the bombing and the role of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the investigation.

MCQ'S & QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

READY TO PRINT

NO-PREP !

JUST PRINT AND GO!



EASY EDITING

EDITABLE

***FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

