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## “We Shall Overcome”

No song is more closely associated with the Civil Rights movement than “We Shall Overcome.” It is based on a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Gospel song, “I’ll Overcome Someday,” written by composer Charles Albert Tindley. Folk singer Pete Seeger, who learned about the song during his work with the labor movement in the 1940s, helped popularize “We Shall Overcome” in the Civil Rights movement. Another Folk singer, Joan Baez, performed it at the March on Washington during which the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. The song was frequently sung at the close of Civil Rights marches and rallies, and was sung at King’s funeral after his assassination in 1968.

*We shall overcome  
We shall overcome  
We shall overcome, some day  
Oh, deep in my heart  
I do believe  
We shall overcome, some day*

*We’ll walk hand in hand  
We’ll walk hand in hand  
We’ll walk hand in hand, some day*

*We shall live in peace  
We shall live in peace  
We shall live in peace, some day*

*We shall all be free  
We shall all be free  
We shall all be free, some day*

*We are not afraid  
We are not afraid  
We are not afraid, today*

*We shall overcome  
We shall overcome  
We shall overcome, some day  
Oh, deep in my heart  
I do believe  
We shall overcome, some day*