



Martin Luther King Jr Essay Competition January 2020

Cunningham Intermediate School Essay Winner
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8th Grade

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way." King was a highly respected spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement from 1955 to 1968. This quote is the perfect embodiment of his growth, mindset and ability to adapt when all hope seems lost.

The quote above means that even when you think you cannot achieve something noticeable and outstanding, there is always a way to contribute with small deeds that have a large impact. All of my life I have been told that my attempts at recycling and picking up litter from outside would never make a difference. People have said that such small acts could not change anything. When I read this quote, it reminded me of how even though my deed was small, that one piece of trash being removed from the environment could have saved an animal's life.

King lives up to this quote more than anyone else. All of his actions and words had inspired other people to stand up for equality. He was able to motivate a multitude of individuals who had the same dream as him, to come together and fight for civil rights. This alone shows his power and how even the smaller actions and words that came from him, all radiated an impactful sense of hope, faith and the belief that the world could be great.

In conclusion, Martin Luther King Jr was truly someone who had spread his growth mindset and ability to have unconditional hope to many people around the world. Every speech, every stance and every detail that he put into his movement, had mattered; Whether it be a march on Washington attended by many, or a simple yet impactful speech at a church.