

Friends,

Earlier this week we celebrated Martin Luther King. Jr. Day, with some of us even being blessed enough to get the day off from work. As we all know, Martin Luther King Jr. is often lifted up as a paragon of courage, who gave his very life for the cause of fighting racial injustice.

While MLK is rightly lifted up as an example of someone who displayed incredible courage, we can sometimes get the wrong message about courage when we think of someone like him. We can come to believe that to be a person who has courage we have to do something incredible-- like sacrifice our life for a cause, or lose our job for taking a stand, or speak out in front of hundreds or thousands of people. When we think about courage, the image that often comes to our mind is larger-than-life figures who were seemingly immovable and unflappable in the face of obstacles.

Yet true courage starts not with some amazing feats of courage but in the everyday realities of life. Sometimes having a difficult conversation with someone that needs to be had can be the most courageous thing you can do. Or admitting that you have a problem and you need help. Or simply continuing to live your life and do what you need to do each day, even in the face of doubts or the pressure to quit or give up. Courage takes on many forms.

Let us be people of courage in whatever way God calls us. As 1 Corinthians 16:13 says, "be on your guard; stand firm in your faith; be courageous; be strong."

On the journey with you,
Pastor Jordan