A Simple Act of Kindness
Quote: “If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.”

Martin Luther King Jr. was very influential to our country and its people. He fought vigorously for all races, religions, and people to be equal. He had a dream and worked tremendously hard to make it come true. One famous quote of his is, “If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.” The meaning can be interpreted in many ways.

After reading this quote I took some time to ponder its meaning. I interpret this quote to mean that small acts which are benevolent and impacting can be done, and may be just as influential as grand acts. Ordinary people in the world cannot end discrimination or change laws regarding racism and how we treat people, but smaller actions can be done in a great way. Holding open the door and being polite are just two examples of simple acts. The size of an action doesn’t always matter, for it is the ramifications that make the difference. Just like King once said, “The time is always right to do what is right.”

Moreover, MLK’s quote has influenced my feelings and inspired me to be a better person and demonstrate courteousness in my community. We all don’t have to do large gestures to make a difference. Small gestures can be just as meaningful to someone. Some examples are mowing someone’s lawn, comforting those who need it, and even just a smile can make someone’s day and inspire them to do the same. We can do these small things with energy and positivity, and that is what makes them so impactful. I feel more motivated to make a difference because I know that even if I cannot do a large endeavor, I can do modest yet significant gestures.

Using this quote and MLK’s words, we can honor him and his legacy. Using my newfound inspiration, I can motivate myself and others to be kind whenever they can. Whatever the action may be, even if it’s small, it is still impactful to someone. We can ask ourselves ‘life’s most persistent and urgent question’. What are we doing for others? MLK wanted us to be compassionate and equal. Using this quote, we’re able to spread the message and achieve MLK’s dream. In closing, Martin Luther King Jr. lives on throughout history. His words and actions have inspired many to be kindhearted and treat people equally. Of many famous quotes, this is just one of them that has continued to lead people to do simple things that can help others. That is how I interpreted this quote and how I will use this meaning to inspire others to show kindness, even if it is with a small deed.