

He saw the chaos consuming his community. Segregation. Hatred. Suffering. Violence. People punished for the color of their skin. Friends drowned in poverty. Children prohibited from gaining access to a quality education.

Amongst the chaos he dreamt of something better. Equality. Peace. Prosperity. Community. The dream was like a flame burning within his soul, begging to be shared, beckoning to come true.

Determined to give life to his dream, he commenced a crusade. Gathering those who were sick of the chaos, he shared his dream through the heart of his voice. Together they marched through the streets, boycotted busses, and formed a community in pursuit of the dream.

Taunted by the idea of a peaceful community, those who desired chaos were enraged. They kicked, cried, and roared through the streets to prevent this dream from coming true, but nothing intimidated the dreamers.

On and on the war continued. Chaos stole the lives of the innocent and even the life of the one who began the crusade. For years the dreamers struggled until, one day, the dreams of equality, peace, prosperity, and community finally came true.

Martin Luther King Jr. and his followers thrived on the promise of the dream. Each of them believed that a united community is worth every tear, every bead of sweat, every bruise, every sacrifice, and every life. Although many of them knew that they might not live to see the dream come true, they still pressed on. They did so knowing that their sacrifices would allow future generations to live their dream.

The call for dreamers is not over. Today, we are called to bring community out of chaos. The torch has been passed to us so that we may light the way for our own children. It is our duty to continue to dream so that our children will lay claim to the community Martin Luther King Jr. envisioned.