**Big Questions**

What makes a good leader?

How do we define love?

How do we show love?

Do acts of service lead to social change?

Can one person change the world?

**Opening Exercise/Activity**

Have members read the speech prior to their arrival, as it is a long text. If you want, you can also have them listen to it or listen to it as the beginning to your session. However, it is 30 minutes in length so you must consider this as you plan the time you have,

With both of the options below, the activity can be done first individually where each participant takes some time to reflect individually and then it can stop here, be shared in a pair or shared in the larger group.

*Option 1*

Think of someone that you admire, who you see as a figure of “greatness.”  Who is it?  What qualities/attributes make them great?

*Option 2*

Think of one specific time when you served others effectively. When was it? When did you serve? Why did you serve them in particular? What made you service effective?

*Option 3*

Think about a situation where you received praise or did not receive praise but felt that you should have.

**Clarification Questions**

1. I want to start with the first lines and draw on the small group discussion you just had. What did you think of his definition of greatness? Does that resonate? Is that your definition?
2. The desire for recognition, for greatness…is this a noble aim? Is this something we ought to want? Why? In the longer speech, King says it’s dangerous. What might be dangerous about it?
3. Why does he think it’s important for everyone to serve?
4. What about the things one doesn’t need to serve? Why is he focused on what you don’t need?
5. Why does King think that the desire to be first is a problem? Does he think that there is a solution to this problem?
6. According to King, what is the relation between the drum major instinct and the race problem?
7. What does King mean when he says that the drum major instinct is good “if you use it right”?
8. What is the “new norm of greatness” that King invokes? According to King, how can everybody be great?
9. For King, what is the relation between death and service?
10. How does King finally help us understand what we can do to “make of this old world a new world”?

**Significance and Implication Questions**

1. How would you/do you convince others to serve?
2. Does everyone have the capacity to serve? Why or why not?
3. "A heart full of grace and a soul generated by love.” How do you interpret that? Is love important for service? Can one serve effectively without it?
4. Why does he emphasize what he tried to do, not what he did. He doesn’t say I fed, I loved, etc.. he says I “tried” to.
5. Does desire for recognition and pride explain much of human behavior, including service? If so, what does that say about us?

**Closing Exercise/Activity**

The below 2 options can be done 1) individually only; or 2) individually and then share in a pair, small group or large group:

*Option 1*

What is one thing you’d be willing to stand up for (to be a drum major for, so to speak) and what are you doing – or willing to do – to show that you are?

*Option 2*

Please write down the following on a sheet of paper: What are the things that you want to be remembered for? When the participants are done writing…ask: “Is service included on this list? Why or why not?