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### Honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Rickey Rogers

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**OUACHITA**  
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

**NEWS**



For immediate release

### **Honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

*By Dr. Rickey Rogers*

January 10, 2023

For more information, contact Ouachita's Office of Communications & Marketing at [comm-mark@obu.edu](mailto:comm-mark@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5206.

As we reflect on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, it is important to remember that Dr. King was a civil rights activist who fought continuously for racial equality and social justice. Dr. King condemned discrimination and segregation because of race, and he affirmed that the American dream belonged to all citizens and that everyone should have an equal opportunity to reach that dream.

Dr. King emphasized nonviolent protests and unity's importance as he fought for justice. I remember reading a quote: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Dr. King did not elevate himself, but it was always about others first.

Today, it is easy to lose sight of Dr. King's legacy and selflessness. Dr. King reminded us that what we do or don't do makes a difference in the lives of others. As I reflect on Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, the following stands out: "With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day."

Dr. King had faith that one day we could live together in equality.

Serving in higher education, I am reminded that Dr. King was a lifelong educator with such wisdom at a young age. He is quoted saying, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."

As we look to honor Dr. King as a person, let's continue to honor all he stood for and all he calls us to be as a people as we interact with and educate others.

After a game, my father would always ask, "What was your impact?" This was his way of asking what I contributed to changing the outcome of the game. It is clear that Dr. King positively affected the world. Today, I wonder if we are living what he envisioned for us. As we celebrate and reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, what will be your impact?



*Dr. Rickey Rogers is the vice president for student development at Ouachita.*