

Excerpts from Representative John Lewis' Emory Commencement Keynote Address in 2014:

... Use what you have, use your learning, use your tools, to help make our country, our world, a better place - no one left out or left behind. You can do it. You must do it. It is your time.

As young people you must understand that there are forces that are going to take us back to another period. But you must say we are not going back. We have made too much progress and we are going forward. There may be some set backs, some delays, some disappointments, but you must never, ever give up or give in. You must keep your faith and keep your eyes on the prize. That is your calling, that is your mission, that is your moral obligation, that is your mandate. Get out there and do it. Get in the way.

In the final analysis we must all learn to live together as brothers and sisters - not just in America but around the world... You must get in the way. to find a way, to make a way, the way out of no way.

...We all live in the same house. And it doesn't matter if we are black or white, Latino, Asian American or Native American. It doesn't matter if we are straight or gay. We are one people. We are one family. we all live in the same house.

Be bold. Be courageous. Stand up. Speak up. Speak out. And find a way to create the Beloved Community, the Beloved World, the World of Peace. The World that recognizes peace. The World that recognizes the dignity of all human kind. Never become bitter. Never become hostile. Never hate. Live in Peace. We are One. One people. One love.