

Summary: “This I Believe: Free Minds and Hearts at Work”

(Example, for Teacher Reference)

In “This I Believe: Free Minds and Hearts at Work” by Jackie Robinson, Jackie Robinson states that he could succeed at breaking the color barrier in baseball because he lived in a free society. Jackie explains that although humans are imperfect, they are always moving slowly toward perfection. He says, “imperfections are human.” But he explains that when people are given space and time, imperfections start to slowly disappear. People can move toward perfection when they live in a free society, which lets people change what they think and what they do. Jackie explains that even though he faced a lot of difficult obstacles in breaking the color barrier in baseball, his strong belief that he had a chance to change things helped keep him going. He knew he had a chance because he lived in a free society and his fight was not against something that he could not change. Jackie said that progress has to happen because free people are always changing. He explains, “I fought because I knew it was not doomed to be a losing fight. It couldn’t be a losing fight—not when it took place in a free society.”