

# Living with Paradox

Note: You can click on each day to read the full article. (They are short.)

## Holding the Tension

January 14 – January 19, 2024

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### Sunday

I am talking about just *holding the tension*, not necessarily finding a resolution or closure to paradox. We must agree to live without resolution, at least for a while. I think opening to this holding pattern is the very name and description of *faith*.

—Richard Rohr

### Monday

Actually, we who engage in nonviolent direct action are not the creators of tension. We merely bring to the surface the hidden tension that is already alive. We bring it out in the open where it can be seen and dealt with.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

### Tuesday

Remember that we are braced by a God who is too big for one-dimensional truths, and this is a *good* thing. It's not that we hold paradox; it's that paradox holds us. We are held in a deep place. An ample place. A generous place. Though *we* might fear paradox, God does not.

—Debie Thomas

### Wednesday

Reality *is* paradoxical. If we're honest, everything is a clash of contradictions, and there is nothing on this created earth that is not a mixture at the same time of good and bad, helpful and unhelpful, endearing and maddening, living and dying.

—Richard Rohr

### Thursday

It's a strange affair to be Black and live in America, and even stranger to be Black and a person of faith in these yet-to-be-United States, to carry around the burden of a socially constructed idea called *race* and yet be filled with a divinely inspired mandate to eradicate all limitations to the human soul.

—Otis Moss III

### Friday

The times when we meet or reckon with our contradictions are often turning points, opportunities to enter into the deeper mystery of God.

—Richard Rohr