



SACRIFICE FOR OTHERS ©

(Value #2: Sacrifice)



Description: We've all heard of rich and famous people who give money to build libraries, hospitals or ballparks for their communities. But what about those of us who don't have lots of money? Are we supposed to give something, too? Cesar Chavez said "yes." He believed strongly in **sacrifice**.

Sacrifice means giving up something in order to help someone else. That does not only mean giving money. It can mean giving your time or your talent. **No matter how young you are, you can give something valuable to your community.**

Example from Cesar's Life: Cesar taught the workers how the union could bring them a better life. They would earn fair **wages** (how much money people are paid for their work.) They would also win better **working conditions** (breaks during the day, restrooms, clean drinking water, etc.)

The workers didn't have much money. But if each person sacrificed something, they could win.

They could contribute pennies to the strike fund. They could make "huelga" (strike) flags out of sticks and cloth. They could talk to other workers about the Union.

But there was another reason sacrifice mattered. When people sacrifice for something, they feel like part of it.

Example from your life:

Suppose you really wanted a dog. What if, the first time you asked, your parents ran out and bought one? And then your mom was the one to feed



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it and clean up after it? That would be nice and easy. But would you really feel it was your dog?

Now, imagine this: When you ask for a dog, your parents say “fine” – IF you will help earn the money to buy the dog and IF you help take care of it.

So you do extra chores. You rake leaves, or watch people’s pets while they’re on vacation. In time, you earn enough money to help buy the dog.

Finally, you bring home your pooch and give her a name. (How about “Pickles”?) You sacrifice 10 minutes of sleep each morning to feed her before school. But when Pickles greets you each morning with her tail wagging, you know it’s worth it. You exercise Pickles by taking her for walks. She feels like your dog. That’s because, along with the responsibility of taking care of her, you are making sacrifices.

Activities: (These will help you understand and practice sacrifice.)

- Give your **time**. Call your grandma, just to see how she’s doing. Eat lunch with the new kid at school.
- Give your **money**. Save some dimes and quarters to give to an organization that helps people. Some examples: the CRLA (California Legal Rural Assistance), Habitat for Humanity, or UNICEF.
- Give **things**. The next time there’s a drive for toys, food, or books, give something from your collection. You’ll brighten the holiday of a poorer kid. And, to make your giving a true sacrifice, you must give something that is very special to you like a favorite piece of clothing, a book you really like, or a toy you’ve always cherished.

The giving **isn’t** a sacrifice unless you include an item very close to you.



The photograph used for the value, **Sacrifice for Others**, was taken by Cathy Murphy, who first met and photographed Cesar Chavez in 1975. Chavez recruited Cathy to join the United Farm Workers and she accepted the position of Staff Photographer. Like all UFW volunteers, Cathy was provided housing, a food allowance and \$5 per week in wages. While working for the UFW Cathy took hundreds of photographs. In December of 2006, Chavez was inducted into the California Hall of Fame in Sacramento. Cathy’s first photograph of Cesar Chavez was chosen as the image to be etched into the wall commemorating Cesar Chavez. Cathy lives in Soderia, Arizona and continues to exhibit her fabulous photo collection throughout the country.

Cesar Chavez Service Clubs

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The Ten Values of Cesar Chavez

1. **Teach Someone** (Service to Others)
2. **Sacrifice for Others** (Sacrifice)
3. **Help Someone** (Help the Most Needy)
4. **Si Se Puede** (Determination)
5. **No Violence** (Nonviolence)
6. **We're All Different** (Accepting of All People)
7. **Respect Others** (Respect for Life)
8. **Be Proud** (Celebrating Community)
9. **Knowledge Is Power** (Knowledge)
10. **Be Creative** (Innovation)

SACRIFICE FOR OTHERS PLEDGE

“I will begin practicing sacrifice (giving up something for someone else’s good). I realize that giving to the community is everyone’s obligation, including mine. I’ll start doing this in little ways, even when it’s inconvenient. And I’ll remember that while giving myself to others helps them, it also ties me into my community.”

Sign here after saying pledge: X.
