

## Daily Devotion For March 31, 2022

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Matthew 25:31-40

Yesterday as I was leaving my morning swim class, the teacher said, "don't forget, no classes tomorrow." When she was asked, why?, she replied tomorrow is a Federal Holiday. It is Caesar Chavez Day.

Growing up in the 60's and 70's and especially so close to the central valley, the name Caesar Chavez was a commonly heard. He was a tireless activist whose devotion to the cause of farm workers contributed to the ongoing fight for workers' rights today. As a first generation American who toiled as a migrant worker when he was young, he had specific insight into the racist and classist system that farm laborers were forced to endure. In order to escape this unjust system, he joined the United State Navy before eventually returning to his roots and beginning his journey as a labor organizer in order to address the poverty and inequalities he experienced and observed.

In 1994, César Chávez posthumously received the country's highest civilian award, the Medal of Freedom, and in 2014, President Barack Obama declared his birthday (March 31st) a federal holiday.

In Matthew 25 when Jesus says "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat" the people He was talking to were surprised. They had done kind things when they saw people in need, but they didn't realize they had been doing those things for Jesus. Jesus goes on to explain that when we do kind things for people in need, we really do those things for Him.

**Thought For Today:** When have you done kind things for people in the past? Can you think of times you've been unkind to others or not bothered to help when you've seen someone in need? Can you think of some examples of kind things you might be able to do for others in the future?

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Who comes to mind when you think of people who are in need? Take time today to lift them up in prayer. Deo Volente.