

26 May 2011

**An interview
with Cesar Millan, the famous American dog trainer**

(You are going to listen to Cesar Millan, the famous American dog trainer, talking to a reporter)

Good evening Cesar, how are you?

Fine thank you and you?

Fine thanks. Can you tell us, who you work for?

Yes, I work for the National Geographic Wild Channel and my programme is on every Tuesday at 8pm.

Who would you most like to have a cup of tea with?

It would have to be the Dalai Lama. I admire anybody who wants to make a difference in the world.

Who has been your biggest inspiration?

Oprah Winfrey - she came from a similar poor background to mine and she has achieved so much. Oprah has shown me what the possibilities are if you have a certain intention in life.

What's your most treasured possession?

My two boys, Calvin, 12, and Andre, 16. I'm very aware that once they are 18 they will be gone, so I want to be with them as much as possible now. I'm an authoritarian dad. I want to pass on the values I learned as a boy about love and respecting Mother Nature and make sure that they are good members of society.

What makes you happiest?

I'm a simple guy. I like to go for a walk early in the morning with my dogs, and then just spend time at home with the boys. I'm a real homebody at heart.

When did you first realize that you had a special connection to dogs?

I grew up on a farm, where learning to work with animals was normal, so I did not think that it was a big deal. When I was 13, I declared I wanted to be the best dog trainer in the world. But it was not until I was 21, and moved from Mexico to the USA to start working as a dog groomer, that I realized I had a special relationship with them.

What's the best thing a dog owner can do for their pet?

Not to blame a dog if it misbehaves! Never! It's just reacting to the cues it has been given by its owner. All a dog needs is exercise, discipline and affection - which creates trust, respect and loyalty.