

The Power of Empathy

Main point: Developing empathy improves effectiveness.

Empathy is more than being nice. Empathy is a powerful perspective for effective engagement with others. It helps us get things done.

Sympathy means you _____.

Empathy means you _____.

Paul's Example in Acts 17:16-34

1. Proactive empathy produces unexpected opportunities. Acts 17:16-21
2. Perceptive empathy connects before it corrects. Acts 17:22-29
3. Purposeful empathy effectively delivers your perspective. Acts 17:30-34

Remember, empathy is the essence of the Christian faith.

Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important:

‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”
Matthew 22:37-40

Action steps:

- Empathize with your leaders. What are their obligations and limitations?
- Empathize with your colleagues. How are their concerns affecting their behavior?
- Empathize with your subordinates. What do they know about your limitations?