

“The Wisdom of Standing in Other’s Shoes”

Proverbs 24:17

Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice.

Romans 12:15-16

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

1. We all desire to be heard and understood. We want to share our joy and have someone carry our burden with us. How have the church mourned and rejoiced with you in the past? How can the church be better at doing that?
2. Empathy enable us to forgive others. What makes it hard for you to forgive someone? How does being quick to listen and slow to anger help give you empathy for others?
3. In Mark 12:29, Jesus states that the greatest commandments are to love you Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. Secondly to “love your neighbour as yourself”. How would empathy make you love others better. What would you do naturally for yourself that is hard to do for others?
4. Our God is a compassionate God who response to our suffering and calls us to be compassionate. What is the relationship between compassion and empathy? How does empathy moves you into action? Can you be compassionate and not act?