

Empathy

- When we look at Christ, and in our efforts to _____ Him, we see that the idea of _____ naturally connects to Christ's work on our behalf.
 - Hebrews 4:14-16
 - Galatians 6:1-2

Why is Empathy Important?

- **Galatians 6:2** "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."
 - "...the 'law of Christ' is for Paul the whole tradition of Jesus' ethical teaching, confirmed by his character and conduct and reproduced within his people by the power of the Spirit" – F. F. Bruce
 - The law of Christ is the _____ of _____.
- What does empathy have to do with imitating Christ?

- **Hebrews 4:14-16**
 - **V. 15** – "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to _____ with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."
 - _____ means, "to _____ or suffer with."
 - "A syntactical blend of person and thing." – Danker
- Sympathy vs. Empathy
 - In **sympathy**, we are attempting to understand another's experience from _____ perspective – from the outside
 - In **empathy**, we are attempting to understand another's experience from _____ perspective – from the inside

- In the Greek, what we see as “sympathy” (v. 15) is how we describe “empathy” today.

Putting it all Together:

- ““...all of the biblical names and metaphors used of Christ in relationship to us are likewise applicable to our relationships with one another.” – Stephen Greggo
 - Just as Christ relates to us, so we must also strive to _____ to each other.

How Do We Best Express Empathy?

- Empathy occurs in two ways:
 - **Empathic** _____
 - **Empathic** _____
 - Empathic _____ is about posturing yourself properly, while empathic _____ is about replying to the other based off of that _____

The Steps to Empathic Presence in Discipleship

- **First**, you _____ with your physical posture.
 - Nonverbal interaction makes up 50% of our communication.
- **Second**, you _____ with your ear.
 - **Psalm 116:2**: “Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.”
- **Third**, you must _____ with your eyes.
 - John 1:48: “when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”
 - _____ well begins with _____ well.

“...the discipler acts in the role of a counselor.”

– Dennis McCallum, Jessica Lowery