

# Friendship: Empathy

*Life Group Questions for April 23, 2017*

What are you looking forward to?

Read Romans 12:15

When have you experienced someone "feeling with you"? What specific actions were important?

Read Psalm 103: 13-14 and Psalm 56:8

How does this picture of an empathic God change us?

Read Luke 8:40-48

What grabs your heart in this scene from the life of Jesus?

Distinguish the difference between Empathy and Sympathy.

View Brene' Brown's brief video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Evwgu369Jw>

How is Empathy, actually suffering with someone, an antidote to Judgment?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Pray for each other to grow in Empathy. Praise be to the God of all comfort!

*"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement,*

*who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our  
powerlessness, that is a friend who cares.”*

*– Henri Nouwen*