

DA32. Empathizing & Sympathizing with Our Neighbor's Joys and Sorrows.

We are to empathize and sympathize with our neighbor's joys and sorrows.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Romans 12:15

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Philippians 2:1-2

Therefore, if you have any encouragement for me from your being in union with the Messiah, any comfort flowing from love, any fellowship with me in the Spirit, or any compassion and sympathy, then complete my joy by having a common purpose and a common love, by being one in heart and mind.

1 Peter 3:8

Finally, all of you, be one in mind and feeling; love as brothers; and be compassionate and humble-minded

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 9:36

Mark 3:5

Luke 6:36

John 11:33-35

1 Corinthians 9:22, 12:26

Colossians 3:12

Hebrews 4:15

Related New Testament Mitzvot

AA10 Having Godly Compassion

DA07 Being Sensitive to Each Other's Needs

DA29 Being Merciful and Not Cruel, Brutal, Heartless, or Ruthless

DA46 Comforting Our Neighbor

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Job 2:11

Now when Iyov's three friends heard of all the calamities that had overwhelmed him, they all came. Each came from his own home- Elifaz from Teiman, Bildad from Shuach and Tzofar from

Na'amah. They had agreed to meet together in order to come and offer him sympathy and comfort.

Psalms 34:19(18)

ADONAI is near those with broken hearts; he saves those whose spirit is crushed

Daniel 1:9

God caused the chief officer to be kind and sympathetic toward Dani'el;

Zechariah 7:9

In the past ADONAI-Tzva'ot said, 'Administer true justice. Let everyone show mercy and compassion to his brother.'

Comment

Empathy and sympathy are different. Empathizing is imagining ourselves in the joyful or sorrowful place of another, and feeling what we imagine he or she is feeling. Sympathizing is cognitively understanding the sorrowful predicament of another, and wishing it were not so. Both empathy and sympathy require having godly compassion which is the subject of *Mitzvah* #AA10.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N18 *Being Compassionate & Merciful Toward Our Neighbor*