

INTERACTING WITH YOUR EMPLOYEES

By Zaahira Khan

To be a good leader, or employer does not mean that you dictate well. To be a good leader, a person needs to develop a good relationship with their employee's.

In so many situations we find workers who want to leave their jobs, not because of the work, or the salary, but simply because their boss was – to put it frankly – a horrible boss.

There are a few simple steps that an employer can do to enhance their relationship with their employee. Get to know your employee. Find out if they have a family, or how many people they support at home. This will give you an idea about their personal life, and try as we might, sometimes we cannot help that our personal life affects our work.

Be understanding. As author, Stephen Covey said, “seek first to understand then to be understood”. To be understanding does not mean that you need to let every misdemeanor go. Understanding means that you see events, or instances from another person's perspective.

It gives you a sense of compassion. Being there for your employee makes you approachable. In turn, your business will surely see increased productivity.

Treat your employees well, and with respect. To treat them with respect, is to speak to them properly. No one likes being spoken down on. If your employee has an opinion on something that could possibly make the business better, heed their opinion.

When an employee feels valued, your business is rewarded, and when an employee expresses their opinion, that simply means that they care about your business as much as you do.

Surprise your employees every now and again. If you have a small business, this can be done relatively easy. Providing lunch for the employees or having a braai after meeting a business target. This shows them that you are grateful for them and can only motivate them further to continue their work.



These are some simple ways in which you can show your employee appreciation, and respect, and love in the workplace. It is not necessary to spend copious amounts of money on your employees.

It is understandable that during these tough times, businesses have taken a toll, but it is simply the way in which you interact with your employees that show's them how much you care about them.