

## **The Bridge of Effort**

Every morning at dawn, Maria walked to the old footbridge near her office. It was just a simple wooden bridge — planks worn, handrails creaky. One day, she noticed a small crack in a plank and decided to replace it. The next day, she fixed another. Slowly, day by day, she repaired more parts of the bridge.

Colleagues watched curiously. “Why bother with a rusty old bridge?” they asked. Maria simply smiled: “A bridge helps more than one person — every person who crosses it counts.”

Weeks passed. What began as a single plank soon became a fully rebuilt, sturdy bridge — safe for everyone. People from her town, who once avoided the bridge, began to cross it every day.

At work, Maria used the same principle. She spent a few extra minutes each day helping a teammate, organizing a messy folder, or writing a clear report. Over time, small efforts built trust, improved morale, and strengthened the team.

Big things often start with small, consistent steps. A little effort every day can build a bridge — not just of wood, but of opportunity, trust, and progress.