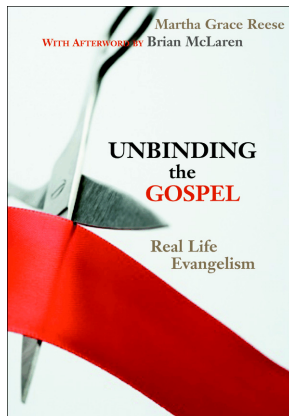


THE REAL LIFE EVANGELISM SERIES

by MARTHA GRACE REESE

Change *Habits*, not just *Minds*!

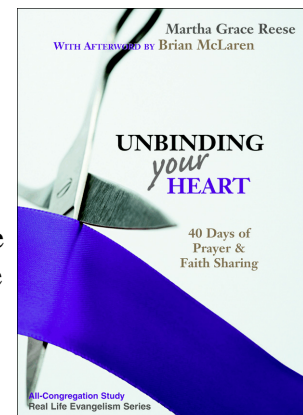


(Red Ribbon)

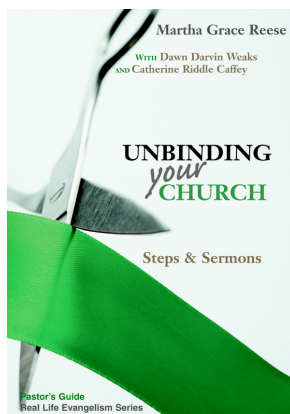
Evangelism books presume everyone *wants* to do evangelism, so they tell you *how* to do it. Four years of Lilly Endowment-funded research has demonstrated conclusively that most people would rather go get a root canal than think about evangelism!

The Real Life Evangelism Series, based on this research, doesn't leap to the *hows* of faith-sharing. This course will help your church grapple with fundamental questions before it moves to the *hows*: *Why* share our faith? *Why do* evangelism? How can we let God enrich our relationships and our spiritual lives so that we can't help sharing them with people?

Author, pastor, researcher and lawyer Martha Grace Reese discovered that most mainline Christians don't share our faith because we aren't clear why we should. (She calls evangelism the "E-word," because it's not a good out-loud word in most churches!) *The Real Life Evangelism Series* will help your church get past the E-word stigma, answer the fundamental "why" questions, connect with the power of a deep faith in Christ, begin to pray for real, and start to share *your* faith with enthusiasm and theological authenticity.



(Purple Ribbon)



(Green Ribbon)

The Real Life Evangelism Series is an integrated set of resources, endorsed by 7 heads of denominations, evangelism experts and pastors. It is grounded in a four-year, Lilly Endowment study of superb evangelism that included 1200+ interviews, 50 site visits, and a major survey of congregations doing the best job reaching unchurched people. The Series has sparked a transformation in understanding, thinking, habits and practices of prayer and evangelism in churches of all sizes, cultural and geographic settings, and theological understandings.

The Real Life Evangelism Series works. It is accessible, joy-filled, research-based, spiritually mature, and beautifully written. It is not a quick fix. Please do not skim. Please do not skimp on time, planning or intensity. We must allow the Spirit to help us change our habits and thought patterns. God can change our churches into vibrant, enthusiastic, articulate communities of faith *if* we'll change our habits.

STEP ONE: *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism* (*Church Leaders' Study*, RED RIBBON). Pastors, key congregational leaders and evangelism teams will benefit most from using *Unbinding the Gospel* as a seven- to ten-week small group study. Study *Unbinding the Gospel* first, in small groups, with 15-20% of your church's worship attendance (evangelism team, elders, church staff and your greatest teachers!) Please discuss the questions, scripture suggestions and group exercises at the end of each chapter. *Unbinding the Gospel* sparkles with practicality! It helps committed leaders deepen and start to share their own faith, understand our cultural context, and begin to plan for authentic, congregational faith-sharing.

STEP TWO: *Unbinding your Heart: 40 Days of Prayer & Faith Sharing* (*All-Congregation Study*, PURPLE RIBBON) is a six-week, church-wide, small group E-vent! It's perfect for a lenten, summer or fall study for all established classes and small groups, and new ones formed just for the E-vent. *Unbinding Your Heart: 40 Days of Prayer and Faith Sharing* is a six-week version of *Unbinding the Gospel*, with the addition of 40 days of individual prayer exercises coordinated with each chapter. It will help individuals risk face-to-face encounters with God. Your entire congregation will begin to talk about their faith. The E-vent creates momentum for faith sharing in your church.

SUPPORT FOR STEPS ONE AND TWO: *Unbinding your Church: Steps & Sermons* (*Pastor's Guide*, GREEN RIBBON). Pastors, teachers and church musicians are busy. This collection of fully integrated resources will help your church work and pray through the Series seamlessly. You will spend your time on what matters—praying, teaching, working directly with your people. *Unbinding your Church* offers:

- **worship resources:** 7 engaging, theologically-rich, inspiring sermons you can adapt or adopt; short Bible teaching on texts; children's activities, prayers and complete coordinated music plans from 4 stellar church musicians (African-American, Hispanic, new church & traditional Euro-American).
- **step-by-step planning tools:** advice for pastors, church staffs, organizers, small group leaders, prayer group leaders, and leaders of children & youth. Calendars, check-lists, rosters, forms, impact diagrams, invitations, website and e-mail ideas will help you organize the E-vent, establish an intercessory prayer group, recruit small group leaders, form new groups and help existing groups commit to the all-congregation study.

The Real Life Evangelism Series works! Congregations and people flourish when we are inspired, informed and given the chance to practice new ideas and skills together. *The Series* will help you invite the Spirit to sweep into your church. Ready?

More info, download free chapters: www.GraceNet.info