

**Title: Learning Conversational Prayer**

**Author : Rosalind Rinker**

**Category : Prayer**

**Paperback : 48 pages**

*“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”* Matthew 18:20 ESV

Within a few days, I managed to "swallow up" the whole book. Frankly speaking, I enjoyed the practical aspects mentioned in this book. It is no doubt that your obstacle to praying aloud can readily be removed having applied the simple basics recommended by Ms Rosalind Rinker who testified how "Conversational Prayer" when properly followed can enhance one's prayer zeal and adventure. Prayer can never be dull anymore once you have got the hold of it. I would like to now introduce the recognition of your identity in Christ. All of us, who are born-again Christians, would very well know that each of you is a child of God. As a child of God, it is our joy and privilege to address God as our Heavenly Father. We need to begin to relate with God with the child in us wanting very much to converse with God our Heavenly Father. The child-like faith in a faithful God is required in prayer.

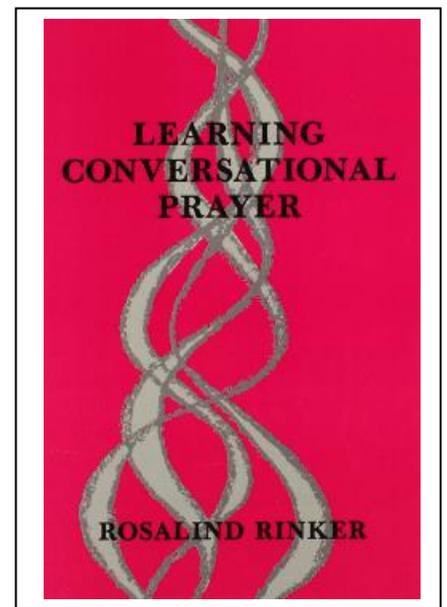
Before we go into the methodology of conversational prayer, let me explain what conversational prayer is. "Conversational Prayer is spontaneous, childlike prayer poured out from our hearts directly to the heart of Jesus. It is shared prayer by a group of brothers and sisters praying aloud together to Jesus as a child would pray." With the help of the Holy Spirit and through a lay leader in the group, praying conversationally may be acquired and achieved. In Psalm 62:8, we are encouraged to trust God at all times, to pour out our hearts before God and to acknowledge that God is our refuge.

Here is what the author has taught me: There are only four simple steps in conversational prayer. First, we recognise the presence of our Risen Lord Jesus. Second, we articulate aloud to our Lord Jesus our worship, praises and thanks. Third, we admit our need for forgiveness, healing, guidance, or help of any kind. Fourth, we pray for one another.

The key thing is to keep each prayer short. The purpose of having short prayer is for the sake of having everyone participating in the praying. Every prayer is valid and viable. Through simple, short prayer, we encourage each other to pray. As we pray, being conscious of the people next to us, we demonstrate the true notion of "loving one another". Everyone in the group gets an opportunity to pray. No one person dominates the praying in the group. The focus of praying has always been on our Lord Jesus as well as on the people around whom our Lord Jesus loves.

Having said all these, I would encourage all of us to give yourself the benefits of doubts to explore the possibility of reading this book for yourself to discover the gems which I personally had discovered. May you let the many wonderful testimonies which has thrilled me to thrill you so that you will eagerly embark on reading this book with the hope of applying it! I hope that I have whetted your appetite in wanting to take hold of this book and reading it for yourself. May this book review enable us to have our prayer life alter for our good and for the glory of God!

This book is available for loan in our resource library.



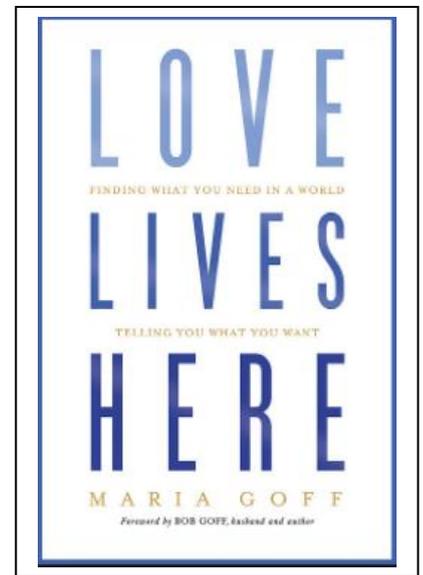
**Title: Love Lives Here: Finding What You Need in a World Telling You What You Want**

**Author : Maria Goff**

**Category : Christian Living**

*“So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.”*

1 Thessalonians 2:8 ESV



The reason I read this book is that Bob Goff address his wife (who is the author of this book) as “Sweet Maria” in his first book ‘Love Does’. I wanted to know what’s in the life of a person, especially an introverted one (Maria Goff) who falls for a lovely extroverted fellow (Bob Goff) who makes a difference to the world around him.

It has been a fruitful read. It is really enjoying some fruits of the stories of the lives in the Goff family through the lenses of Maria Goff. Through her story telling, I get to see: what’s going on in the life of an introverted person, what’s going on in the growing years, what’s going on in the life between husband and wife, what’s going on in the mind and life of neighbours, what’s going on through the lenses of learning parents and what real active correction we need to take to make changes in our already hectic lifestyle. What it takes for a frantic mother taking up paintball arms to chase a berry eating bear ravaging through their garden; what it takes for a homemaker and her welcoming husband and three kids to prepare the house to host a visiting ambassador and his family from another country. How would you respond to a recovering jeweller who is reopening his little shop, who took six bullets when his little shop was robbed?

Each story Maria shares has a lesson or two or more lessons to reflect on and take stock and make changes. Maybe we will discover we are not alone after all in our own journey. Maybe we can make changes, not necessarily to be like them but to do something that fits me, myself and I. Maybe those changes will begin to start shining for Jesus; be a beacon of light breaking out of our gloomy darkness. Here are some sneak peeks into the book (available for loan in our Resource Library):

*It wasn’t on the surface where Peter found his need for Jesus; it was only when he started going a little deeper that he became desperate enough to call out to God for help. The same is true for you and me. (pg4)*

*None of us know what God might do next, but we get to decide what we’ll do next. Get back in the arena. Press into the pain. Find new materials and get back to your life.... What I think God does is to allow each of us to go through difficult times to show us His presence with it. (pg19)*

*It is the horrible jobs that get us ready for the better ones. They help us sort out what we’re able to do from what we were meant to do. (pg60)*

*Faith doesn’t eliminate fears in my life; it lets me know I had someone I could bring them to. (pg149)*

*Hospitality is always a matter of the heart; it’s not the condition of our homes. (pg172)*