

MARIA GOFF

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Maria Goff has made a career out of loving her family and neighbors, raising her children, and turning houses into homes. She is married to national bestselling author of “Love Does” Bob Goff. The couple operate Love Does, an organization dedicated to helping kids in conflict areas around the world including Uganda, Nepal, India, Iraq, and Somalia. The Goffs have three adult kids who are starting families of their own. The couple lives in San Diego, where they continue to dream about and plan new adventures yet to be had with their growing family. Maria’s first book, **LOVE LIVES HERE: FINDING WHAT YOU NEED IN A WORLD TELLING YOU WHAT YOU WANT**, will be available everywhere March 7, 2017. For more information, please visit www.lovelivesherebook.com.

Why Maria Goff?



- No one combines a pilgrim’s wanderlust and homebody’s anchoring heart like Maria Goff. As she’s supported and traveled with her husband Bob Goff on international trips to protect and advance marginalized children, she’s also made her family’s home a welcoming place of rest and renewal.
- A contributor to the IF:Gathering blog, Maria connects with thousands through storytelling that is as relatable as it is beautiful.
- Compelling and important, Maria’s story needs to be shared. She overcame childhood challenges to build a life full of happiness and gratitude.
- With an emphasis on loving and serving others, and encountering God in our darkest moments, she is a needed representative of authentic faith.
- Many women will relate to Maria’s internal struggle between what she desired and cultural expectations—what she calls “ambition vs. ability.” From a young age, she longed to be a wife and mother, and struggled for a time with the messages society sends women about needing to do and be it all. Maria learned to understand her ambition to love and care for her family first as valid and valuable.
- Maria urges readers to look past the world’s distractions and search deeply within themselves to uncover what truly matters. It’s a message that is universally relatable, timeless, and liberating.

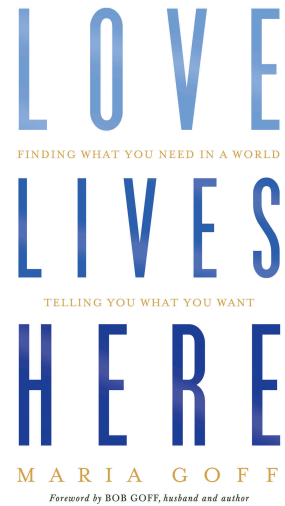
“ I want to find the things that matter. Things that don’t just work, but last. I’m betting you do too.”
- Maria Goff, *Love Lives Here*

“ We all need to wake ourselves up once in a while too. To take a good look at what’s accumulated in the seasons of our lives and deal with it.” - Maria Goff, *Love Lives Here*

About the Book

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

In her first book, LOVE LIVES HERE: FINDING WHAT YOU NEED IN A WORLD TELLING YOU WHAT YOU WANT, Maria Goff—wife of *New York Times* bestselling author, human rights activist, and attorney Bob Goff—shows us that when we stop to reflect and muster the courage to dive past the surface, we can become wholly and freely ourselves, love others better, contribute more, and live the lives we were meant to live. A “love letter” to the most important people in Maria’s life, LOVE LIVES HERE shares deeply personal stories about childhood trauma, addiction, and sudden loss with grace and generous candor. Maria’s writing voice is warm and vivid, and nuggets of wisdom pepper the text with awe-inspiring consistency. Moving and relatable, LOVE LIVES HERE is both a challenge and a comfort that pushes readers to stretch as it reminds us we’re not alone.



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Why Love Lives Here?



- LOVE LIVES HERE offers a window into the lives of Maria and Bob, two people who have spent their life loving others well. From their motivation to their practical implementation, they lead and inspire readers.
- From the recent fire that destroyed the lodge they loved, to the difficulties she faced growing up, LOVE LIVES HERE refuses to gloss over tragedy. Maria writes about both joy and pain, arguing that it is in those places that we encounter God and come to know ourselves better.
- Maria emphasizes when we embrace our longing and capabilities, we are set free to contribute to the world in impactful ways. She urges readers not to compare themselves with others—spouses, friends, or strangers—and instead, to delight in how God has made each one of us.
- In LOVE LIVES HERE, Maria writes about building a strong family and faith. One anecdote illustrates the Goff’s approach with humor and ingenuity. When her three kids informed Maria one morning that they were running away, she didn’t scold them. She helped them pack—and regained her own childlike sense of wonder and possibility in addition to learning how to let go.
- The book offers a moving portrait of Maria and Bob, two ordinary people in an extraordinary love story. Bob is gregarious and always on the move—“the balloon”—while Maria is quiet and intentional—“the string.” Together, they achieve more than they ever could alone.

“ I didn’t write this book because I think we need more information, more steps, or more instructions on how to lead a meaningful life. Instead, I think we can all benefit from honest times of reflections.”
- Maria Goff, *Love Lives Here*