

HEALTHY CHURCH INITIATIVE
“UNBINDING YOUR HEART

MAKING ROOM FOR PEOPLE NEW TO FAITH

Seek a moment of silence. Breathe slowly. Ask God to show you a few things that are at the very core of faith--those things that are the essence of being Christian. Then, take a moment to think of a "non-churched" person you know. Might he or she struggle on the journey toward Jesus just by bumping into little things we do as a church? How can we help others see what really matters: that Christ loves and forgives them, that the church is meant to be a community of love serving the world. Ask God to show you a few specific things you could do (or our church could do) to help new people fit in and understand faith more easily.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to keep first things first! Help me to remember the point of our faith is your love for us, your forgiveness, and your encouragement of each of us through the body of Christ. Help me to focus on the essentials and the eternal. Help me to be sensitive to the needs of those who are new in the faith. Help me to build relationships and ask questions so I can learn, rather than assume I know, about he needs of others Amen.

(Martha Grace Reese, "Unbinding Your Heart," p. 151).