

PEACE

24/7

Empowering Youth to Be Ministers of Peace and Justice



photo by Diane Sadler, used by permission

**Spread
the Message
of Peace**

Become Aware

Ever wish you could do something that could potentially impact the lives of thousands? Well, here is your chance! Forefront Ministries is offering *you* the opportunity to write for *PEACE 24/7*. You can involve family and friends, or write it on your own. A church school class, a class or club at school, or a youth group may also wish to work together.

PEACE 24/7 is designed to help youth discover their path of peace as a disciple of Christ.

On many topics, two or more sides of an issue will be discussed—and no specific stand will be taken.

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Questions?
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How do I get started?

1 Choose a subject that is of interest to you. It should be an issue of peace and justice that relates to the lives of youth in the world. For ideas, just look around. Think about what you have studied in school, what you hear on the news. What are the issues your peers must deal with on a day-to-day basis? Remember the general areas of peace: personal, relational, community or world issues, environmental issues.

2 Drop Forefront Ministries an e-mail: lroberson@CofChrist.org. Let us know what topic you are working on and when you expect to finish it. This will help prevent two groups (or Forefront) from working on the exact same topic. **HINT:** Don't drag the production of this out too long or the whole project may get lost.

3 Research. Research. Research. Use the Internet, your library, interviews with experts in the field, magazines, and books. Keep a list of the resources you draw ideas from. These should be turned in to Forefront with the lesson. This is not to check up on you, but to provide the editor with copyright information for the final project.

4 Begin to write. Using the format described on the next few pages, write out your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions. It will be easiest for editors if the material is typed into MS Word, WordPerfect, or some other basic word processing program. Do not worry about fonts or design. Don't worry if the words aren't perfect—by the time you see it again, it will have gone through at least five editors—each one making changes of their own.

5 After you have written the resource, ask others to read and review it. When you are satisfied with your finished product, send it to Forefront Ministries. Make sure all quotes and specific ideas or theories are documented and references attached. Oh yes, make sure to include the names of everyone who has contributed and an address where a published copy can be sent!

6 Watch for your issue of *PEACE 24/7* to be published! Enjoy the thrill of knowing you took a chance and made a difference.

format guide

section 1

Become Aware

Use this section to introduce the topic to the readers. Pique their interest, and help them begin to see how the issue is relevant to their lives.

section 2

Acknowledge Responsibility

Include scriptures that speak to the topic. What do they have to say? You should also include questions for discussion that are directed at someone who desires to live their life as a disciple of Christ.

section 3

Acquire More Understanding

Okay, so your readers have taken the challenge. Now help them learn more about the issue. Provide instructions for hands-on experiences that provide opportunity for deeper learning and understanding. Be creative!

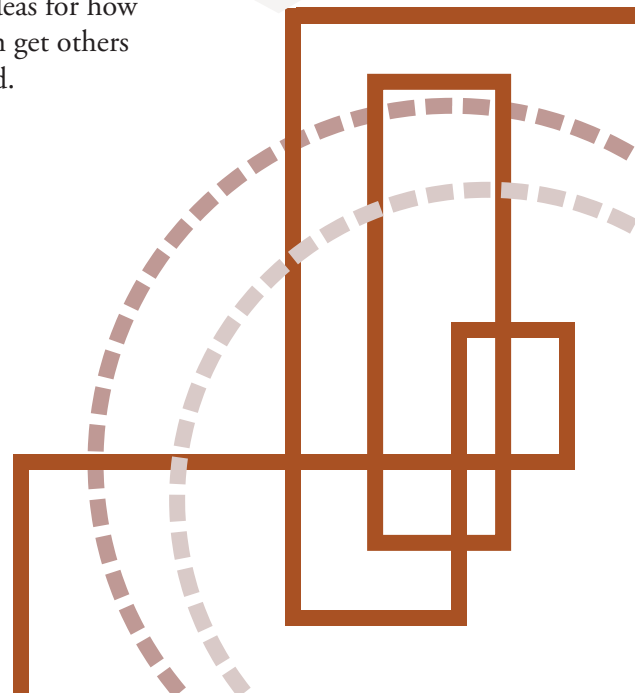
section 4

Take Action

Talk is cheap. Now is your chance to give other teens ideas for specific actions they can take in their own communities so they will make a difference.

section 5

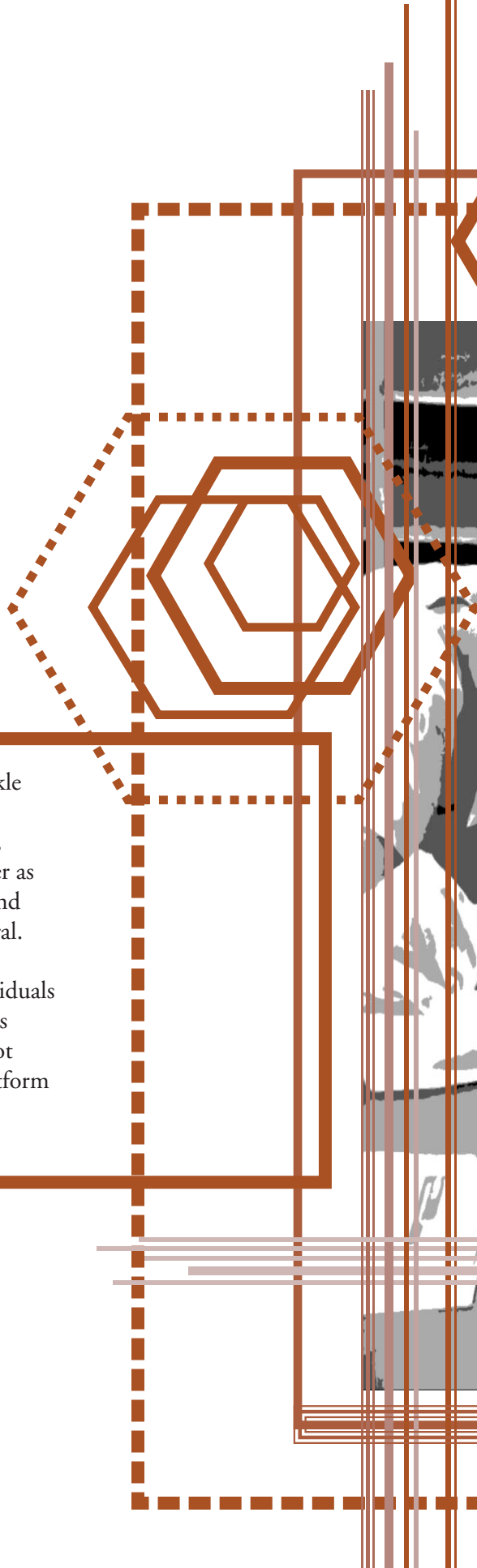
Here is where you encourage the readers to pass on the passion for this topic. Share ideas for how they can get others involved.





Topics to Get You Thinking

- Overcoming Fear
- Making Life-changing Decisions
- Forgiveness
- Music: The Universal Language?
- Conflict Resolution
- Dealing with Grief
- Saving the Air We Breathe
- Land Use Issues
- Global Warming
- Endangered Species
- Facing Our Prejudices
- World Religions
- Education Equality
- Building Community
- Respect for Authority
- Developing Your Work Ethic
- Find Hope in the Hopeless
- Money Management
- Simple Living
- Consumerism
- Hunger Next Door
- Dealing with Substance Abuse
- Guns and Gun Control
- War? Is It Called for Today?
- Recognizing and Dealing with Abuse
- Death Penalty
- Restorative Justice
- Sexual Preferences
- Intercultural Relationships
- Abortion
- God at School
- Depression and Suicide



If you choose to tackle some of the tough subjects—war, guns, abortion—remember as the writers, your stand should remain neutral. The goal of *PEACE 24/7* is to help individuals discover their path as peacemakers. It is not designed to be a platform for specific ideals or opinions.