



© Joel Kauffmann

Small acts of courage make a difference. Read through the following list and choose one act of peace you will do this week.

You can bring a bit of peace to your world by

- **touching** others only with gentleness and kindness. Especially touch those who need warm caring.
- **walking** around your neighborhood and looking, listening and sharing with the folks you meet. Talk about how to make your neighborhood safer, cleaner and friendlier.
- **spending** more time having fun with your family.
- **praying** for a government official and sending an encouraging note telling her/him that.
- **developing** a friendship with someone in a different economic or social class.
- **stopping** a racist or sexist joke. Ask equal respect of all others in your presence.
- **informing** yourself about fellow humans who are hungry. Contribute food from your house to the local food pantry.
- **throwing** away fewer things. Treat your company to real dishes and your landfill to less garbage.
- **praying** for one of your enemies.
- **fasting** for a meal or a day and giving the money to a group working against hunger.
- **writing** someone you know who is a peacemaker, thanking them for their work, and remembering them in prayer.
- **talking** to children about what is important to them. Ask open-ended questions about their dreams and hopes. Then work to make them a future worth living.
- **trying** to see another's point of view.
- **using** water carefully. Take a shorter shower and cultivate plants that need less water.
- **donating** money to a group working for peace and justice. These groups are always short on funds and long on work to do!
- **praying** for peace within yourself.
- **writing** a letter to the editor of your local newspaper and taking a stand for peace.
- **buying** toys which teach children a high regard for life.
- **sending** a personal note to someone you've been angry at.
- **contacting** a local peace group and offering time and skills.
- **giving** a copy of this brochure to a friend and suggesting you together do one of the items.
- **praying** for someone in a country our government calls enemy. Then go to the library and learn more about the people of the country.
- **subscribing** to a magazine that keeps you thinking and acting for peace and justice.
- **calling** your local school and asking if they teach children conflict resolution skills. Volunteer to help.
- **learning** about peacemaking. Visit your local library and/or Internet and learn about violence, racism or poverty.
- **calling** talk shows and offering views on reconciliation.
- **expressing** your anger appropriately.
- **inviting** friends to your home to learn more about peacemaking.
- **wearing** a t-shirt or button with a peace message.
- **taking** a walk with friends and picking up litter.
- **memorizing** a Bible passage about loving enemies.
- **apologizing** promptly when you've hurt someone.
- **saying** the prayer for peace every day for one week (see back panel).
- **eating** a meal without meat and contributing the difference to an overseas group working to eradicate hunger (One such group is Mennonite Central Committee, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.)

Seek peace, and pursue it

Psalm 34:14 NRSV

God encourages us to actively make peace. Your daily decisions matter. Know that God will bless and multiply them.

For information about this brochure, please contact the Peace and Justice Committee. You may copy this brochure for local distribution. Do not copy the comic strip alone without permission from Joel Kauffmann, <PontPudl@aol.com>.

God cares about peace and justice. Study these Bible passages:

- Isaiah 58:6-12
- Luke 4:16-30
- Micah 4:1-5
- Matthew 5:1-7:29
- Isaiah 11:1-9
- Romans 12: 1-21
- John 15:1-17
- Ephesians 2:11-22

A Prayer for Peace

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the need of others
Open my ears that I may hear their cries,
Open my heart so that they need not be without succor.
Let me not be afraid to defend the weak
because of the anger of the strong,
nor to defend the poor because of the rich.
Show me where love and hope and faith are needed,
and use me to bring them to these places.
Open my eyes and ears that I may, this coming day,
be able to do some work of peace for [you. Amen.]

Alan Paton, *Instrument of Thy Peace*, 2nd ed. (London: Wm. Collins PLC, Fount Paperback, 1983);
quoted in *But WHY Don't We Go to War?* Susan Mark Landis (Herald Press, 1993); used by permission.

More copies of this brochure
are available from:
Peace and Justice Committee
PO Box 173
Orrville OH 44667-0173
phone/fax 330-683-6844
e-mail mcpj@ssnet.com



Where to go from here...
Join your courageous act of peace to another's and another's.
Join a congregation that will support you.

**What can one person
do for peace?**

