



Guidelines for Writers

Canada and Bermuda
Editorial Department
December 16

Faith & Friends

The Magazine for Friendship Evangelism

Our Magazine

Faith & Friends is a contemporary, full-colour monthly magazine with a circulation of more than 50,000. It is written and designed to show Jesus Christ at work in the lives of real people and to provide spiritual resources for those who are new to the Christian faith. Each issue contains stories about people whose lives have been changed through an encounter with Jesus. The stories are true. The people are real. The experiences have been witnessed and verified.

Our Readers

Faith & Friends is written for everyday people—people like you! We feature stories of conversion, miracles, healing, faith in the midst of crisis, forgiveness, reconciliation, answered prayers and more. We profile people who have found hope and healing through our ministries, including prisoners, hospital patients, nursing home residents, single parents in distress, addicts, the unemployed or homeless.

Our Approach

Every person has a story to tell. Some have more than one. These stories inspire faith and give hope to our readers.

We are not interested in life stories *per se*. We are interested in the events that have taken place within people's lives—stories of conversion, miracles, healing, faith in the midst of crisis (e.g. cancer or other health issue, death of a loved one), forgiveness, reconciliation, answered prayer and more. From these stories, readers should be able to see what individuals did in their particular situations and how Christ continues to make a difference in their everyday lives. Then even if the readers' situations are different, they will take away lessons for their own lives. This "take away" factor is most important to us.

Articles should avoid references and concepts the unchurched would not understand and should focus on ideas and answers which are compatible with a Christian worldview. Take care not to submit an essay or preach at our readers.

Our Editorial Needs

We usually publish two kinds of non-fiction articles:

Testimonial - Write your conversion testimony in the first person, conveying what Christ has done in your life. Include in the account what your life was like before you became a Christian, but focus on the circumstances in which you invited Christ into your life and on what is happening at the present time. Or you may want to write another person's testimony obtained by interview. Length: 1,200 words.

Personal Story - Write a concise narrative relating biblical principles to everyday living, using an anecdote or incident from your own or someone else's life. 750 words.

Departments - A concise narrative chosen from one of the following topic areas. Length: 750 words.

Faith Builders: Reviews that explore the spiritual meaning behind popular movies or television shows.
God in My Life: Personal witness of the power of God in everyday life.

Turning Point: How, with God's help, you faced a serious obstacle—addiction, abuse, death of a loved one, temptation or failure—and got on with your life.

Someone Cares: A profile or personal treatment of how you or someone you know was helped by The Salvation Army.

Words to Live By: The Bible in action or a Bible message integrated into your life and presented in everyday terms.

Big Questions: Answers to difficult theological questions in terms that ordinary people can understand.

Sacred Space: Spiritual tools, exercises, disciplines and social justice issues that encourage new Christians to connect with God and reach out to others.

Beyond Borders: Inspirational stories of overseas missionaries or Christian workers who engage with the culture in innovative ways.

The Bottom Line: Christian businesspeople who live out their beliefs at work by establishing an ethical workplace with ethical practices.

Love & Life: Exploring the Christian dimension to spousal and family relationships.

Submissions

Faith & Friends welcomes your submissions. Interested parties may contact the editor to determine the appropriateness of an article. All completed manuscripts are given consideration. Before submitting material, study the content, style and article length of a typical issue.

E-mail submissions are preferred, attached as a Microsoft Word document. Type your manuscript in standard manuscript form: double-spaced; name, address, and telephone in top left-hand corner; word count in top right-hand corner. Allow margins of at least one inch.

If your article is about someone else, also include name, address and telephone number of the person who is the subject of the story.

Indicate the Scripture references in parenthesis within the text of your article. Indicate the version of the Bible used. (TNIV is standard Bible translation used.) Sources must also be given for quotations or general comments attributed to other persons.

Contact the editor for guidance regarding photos and illustrations used in the magazine.

We accept reprints from non-competing media. Send a photocopy of the published piece and the name and date of the publication it appeared in.

The editor reserves the right to improve details, correct information and condense articles where necessary.

Publication

Writers will receive, without cost, three (3) advance copies of the issue in which their manuscript has been published. Extra copies can be ordered from the Circulation Co-ordinator, 2 Overlea Blvd., Toronto, ON (416) 422-6112.

Faith & Friends is a member of the Canadian Church Press.

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