Pope Francis spoke Thursday about education as a path to peace, saying that if people of faith do not transmit concrete values to young people, the message will get stuck in the incomprehensible abstract.

“The responsibility towards the new generations requires above all the commitment to form them and listen to them in order to respond to the challenges of our times, without denying the immutable value of truth, but with a comprehensible and current language,” the pope said Oct. 31.

Speaking at an interreligious event at the Pontifical Lateran University, he stated that “many times we too, women and men of faith, limit ourselves to giving indications rather than transmitting the experience of values and virtues.”

“And so, in the face of conflicts and the need to build peace, we do not realize that our message is likely to be abstract and remain unheard,” he added.

Pope Francis spoke at the conclusion of an event called “Education, Human Rights, Peace: Instruments of international action and the role of religions.”

Speakers at the day of study included representatives of all the major world religions: Buddhism, Taoism, Sikh, Hinduism, Islam, Orthodoxy, Evangelicalism, and Catholicism, as well as the Waldensian Evangelical Church.

The pope emphasized that just to criticize the past or the present is not helpful to the goal of creating a more peaceful future for the world. He added: “it is necessary to show creativity and proposals for the future.”

Instead of conditioning the future path of youth people, solutions should be sought for how to provide them with the tools to overcome conflicts, he said.

Francis underlined the importance of dialogue, saying, “dialogue does not only serve to prevent and