



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Free Presbyterian gospel broadcast to be launched on Irish radio station



Rev. Ivan Foster preparing tapes for broadcasting

The broadcast is on the medium wave at 981kHz and will be called **The Burning Bush Bible Broadcast**. The station claims to cover 80% of the nine counties of Ulster. Its listening audience is over 70% Roman Catholic. It is a station that is almost constantly devoted to playing country and western music.

I count it a privilege to have the opportunity of proclaiming Christ over the airwaves.

There are a number of other Christian groups and churches which broadcast on this station. It costs £50 per 15 minute broadcast. I have contracted to do six months of programmes totalling £1200.

FAITH

This is a venture of faith. The opportunity came my way and I believe that it is an answer to prayer. For some time there has been a crying unto the Lord for a fresh opening in the gospel to be given and for His people to be granted a recovering of their first love. May this be indeed the Lord giving back to His people the years that the locust hath eaten, Joel 2:25.

EXPERIENCE

Having had some experience of such broadcasts in the early days of the Free Presbyterian Church's own radio ministry, "Let the Bible Speak," both here at home and with some of our churches in Canada and USA I am not altogether a novice.

Nevertheless, I do request the earnest prayers of God's people for wisdom regarding how best to use this opportunity. I must so speak as to present Christ faithfully and yet not drive the radio listeners away! It is a case of following Paul's example. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some, 1 Corinthians 9:22.

MISSION FIELD

The Irish Republic is a very needy mission field. Few who have studied Irish history would refuse to acknowledge that had the gospel been more effectively propagated in centuries past, the island of Ireland would be a very different place today. Men such as Gideon Ouseley and Charles Graham, early Methodist itinerant preachers did much good in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. They suffered much for Christ as they laboured in the gospel, preaching in Gaelic. Had there been more such men, how blessed a place Erin would be today!

I have taken this work on myself, though I will be seeking the help of fellow ministers for some of the preaching slots. Financially, I will also be responsible for the monthly account



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of £200. I have already received promises of support which will take care of the first 6 weeks.

Should anyone wish to help, please mark your gift "The Burning Bush" (Radio fund). Ideally, I would like to see 52 Christians covenant £50 each per year so that this might become a permanent witness.

Please pray for this witness. Those who live outside the broadcast area as well as those who will be able to pick it up, please unite with us in prayer at 10.00 am on a Monday morning, that God's blessing might accompany His Word and that many will respond to the call to repentance. We plan to make free literature and copies of the Bible available to those interested enough to write to us.

EQUIPMENT

We here in Kilskeery are looking forward to this venture with much excitement and joy. My study will become the studio where the programmes will be prepared. I have already purchased some necessary equipment with which to make the programmes. The outlay on that alone will likely reach 500. *But my God shall supply all . . . the . . . need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus, Philippians 4:19.*

PRAY . . PRAY . . PRAY

I commend this witness to you all.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you, 2 Thessalonians 3:1.

PROTEST

At present, there is a campaign running to put pressure on the British Government to grant religious organisations the right to hold a national radio licence. Government-controlled radio and television broadcasting has helped to make this generation one of the most corrupt. Yet no evangelical group or denomination can broadcast from within the borders of the nation. This is nothing short of a denial of religious liberty.

We would urge our readers to write to the Prime Minister, The Right Hon. Tony Blair at 10 Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA, requesting a change in the law to allow Christians the right to listen to Christian radio.

NEWS UPDATE

Since the printing of this article in "The Burning Bush", I have talked to Rev. Leslie Curran and Dr. Alan Cairns who lead "Let the Bible Speak", the world-wide radio ministry of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster, and our broadcast will be aired as part of that witness. In the United States and Canada, most of our churches air their own gospel broadcasts under the banner of "Let The Bible Speak". We here in Kilskeery will be doing the same with the financing of the programme my sole responsibility. We would therefore, value your prayers and any financial support that you may be able to give.

The Editor.