



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Yet another ecumenical exercise in so-called evangelism



“Power to Change” is the name given to a new venture in ecumenical evangelism. It purports to present the gospel of Jesus Christ but in truth advocates a theological hodge-podge which has received the endorsement and cooperation of the Roman Catholic church. It is based upon an abandonment of the historic Christian faith and the promoting of the errors of ecumenism.

“Power to Change” stems from Campus Crusade for Christ whose founder, Bill Bright was one of the ‘evangelical’ signatories of the ‘Evangelicals and Catholics Together’ document in USA in 1994 and who a few years later accepted the Templeton prize (\$1million) for progress in religion. He accepted it in a Roman Catholic chapel in Rome, in the presence of Cardinal Edward Cassidy, who was involved in an advisory capacity for Rome in the drafting of the ‘Evangelicals and Catholics Together’ document.

Other recipients of the Templeton prize have included ecumenists Billy Graham and Charles Colson and the well-known Roman Catholic nun, the late ‘Mother’ Teresa. Local Northern Ireland ‘Evangelical Alliance’ representative, Stephen Cave, was involved in the promotion of “Power to Change” in Enniskillen, in property owned by Mr. Brendan Jones, named on the “Power to Change” website as their contact in Co. Fermanagh. Featured in the video shown was well known ‘Evangelical Catholic’ spokesperson Paddy Monaghan. Paddy Monaghan, along with Basil Good of the Scripture Union (Republic of Ireland) which recently appointed ‘Evangelical Catholic’, Jim Donnan, as Director of Scripture Union in the South of Ireland, appeared on UCB radio in the South of Ireland in October to give details of the planned launch of ‘POWER TO CHANGE’.

In the course of their broadcast, they named Fitzroy Presbyterian Church elder, Mr Michael Fitch, as being one of the leaders of this new initiative in Northern Ireland. A “Power to Change” booklet contains a number of ‘testimonies’. Amongst these ‘testimonies’ are those by Roman Catholics: Bernadette Power (page 56), Jim Donnan (page 68) and Michael McGoldrick (page 82).

The Roman Catholic influence is also highlighted on page 55 in the section dealing with ‘Suggestions For Further Growth’ where we read ‘If you don’t already have a Bible, you can get one from your local bookshop. The New Living Translation Bible uses modern English. Or ask a priest or minister or Christian friend’. Another supporter of this ecumenical evangelism is High Kirk Presbyterian Church in Ballymena whose minister, Dr. Russell Birney, has publicly given his seal of approval to ‘fellowshipping’ with ‘Evangelical Catholics’.

The participants in ‘Power to Change’ represent differing so-called ‘gospels.’ According to what another spokesman, Basil Good, said in a January RTE TV programme promoting ‘Power to Change’, participating churches/groups are free to push whatever doctrinal line they want. Rome will be promoting her errors with the endorsement of all those evangelicals foolish enough to join this unbiblical outreach.

Already a ‘Power to Change’ booklet has had to be withdrawn and reprinted because two of



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

the original contributors, former loyalist paramilitaries who had been converted to Christ, withdrew permission for their testimonies to be used because of the inclusion of 'testimonies' by Roman Catholics. They had never been informed by the organisers of 'Power to change' of the ecumenical nature of this campaign and in obedience to the Word of God withdrew from it when they became aware of this. These are not the only ones deceived by the glossy presentation and evangelical terminology of these wolves in sheep's clothing.

See [Take Heed Ministries website](#) for more information.