Methodist Leader Sees Unity Model In Catholic Orders

By FR. JOHN FOLEY churches coming together in such a manner can be most effective. Also, we should learn religious orders in the Catholic to seek answers to public prob-Church offer a model for even-tual Christian unity, the retir-ed Methodist bishop of Phila-estimation of the church in the delphia said in an interview community and helps to bring here commenting on the ecu-about a favorable outcome by menical outlook in connection cooperative effort."
with the 1969 Week of Prayer

for Christian Unity. "Our first, real, immediate need in ecumenism," Bishop The former president of the Corson stated, "is practical edu-World Methodist Council, Bish cation, so that we have an in-op Fred Pierce Corson, said: "I formed clergy and laity on both know I've suprised some of the sides regarding our oneness in Catholic brethren when I've Christ. This will help to resaid that in the Catholic sysmove many move many movements." tem of rites and religious or which now occur." ders we have the beginning of the idea of how Christian "Second," he continued, "we churches could be brought to need to demonstrate the idea

gether - with autonomy, yet and doctrine we enunciate. You can't understand ecumenicity in "Protestants are amazed at perience it to know it." the amount of local decision

and autonomy there is in the Many misunderstandings oc-Roman Catholic Church they cur, Bishop Corson explained, had considered 'monolithic.' because of the problem of vocabulary. vocabulary. there should be an Anglican

rite or an Evangelical rite, just "We carry over words from as there is today a Byzantine the past," he said, "which have an implication unsuitable to ecumenical relations."

Noting the importance of prayer in hastening Christian "For example," he explained, unity, Bishop Corson, who "before Pope John, a non-Cathserved as a Methodist observed as called a "heretic." Pope er at the Second Vatican Coun-John inaugurated the phrase, cil said: "If, in the Week of "separated brethren," a stroke prayer for Christian Unity we of inspiration in my oninion." Prayer for Christian Unity, we of inspiration, in my opinion.

did no more than create an awareness of the need for mutual prayer, then we would gain connotation," Bishop Corson continued "is infallibility." from the thought that we were Every Protestant knows what experiencing the communion of ultimate authority is and he respects it. As Methodists, we have a judicial council which,

"On the grass-roots level," at times, makes judgments Bishop Corson said, "I'd start from which there is no reout with the premise that many of our so-called differences 'infallible.' grow out of our isolation. Thus,

when we come to speak, we come to know and love each into trouble once because I was other more. The emphasis on quoted out of context in the dialogue is good, but we must press. I was quoted as saying, also make a conscious effort to There are times I'd rather have the Pope make the de-cision than the judicial coun-"Therefore, there should be cil.' The paper left out my next more services of worship, since phrase, 'provided I would choose a massive witness of the the Pope'."

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