

# The Letter

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EASTER 1928

A FIRST CENTURY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



## Some Basic Principles

**M**ANY times definitions are asked for as to just what the work of the Fellowship is. It is not easy to give them. Certain principles do stand out clearly, however.

One is the principle of Fellowship. Insofar as a name is desirable this is a First Century Christian Fellowship. It is not a schism or a sect or an organization. It is a movement of life for vital personal religion within the churches to make the principles of the New Testament practical as a working force today.

Another is the principle of Consecration. We believe in the need for the unconditional surrender of the human will to the will of God made manifest in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. And we believe that there is need for a continuous daily contact with God through the Bible, prayer, and listening for the voice of God's Holy Spirit.

Another is the principle of witness. We believe in the need for every Christian to witness for Christ and to bring others to Him. In the winning of others to Christ we believe in the guided sharing of self with and for others. We believe that according as the desire of a man's heart is more and more completely to do God's will instead of his own, will there come more and more clearly to lead him the illumination and guidance of God's Holy Spirit. Henry T. Gillett, M.D., of Oxford puts it this way. "The teaching is simple—the religious life must be an experience. First of all there must be a full dedication of the life of God. This is by no means easy but when it is accomplished, perhaps after some travail and prayer, there is a liberation of power and a sense of union with God. Further there must be a daily practice of prayer, waiting on God in Silence, rededicating of the life, and then waiting to understand the still small voice of God making known inwardly what His purpose is. There is naturally a growth in understanding that comes through daily practice."

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[A list of books and booklets is printed  
on the inside back cover.]