

“Aviate, Navigate, Communicate”

September 2016

As the Captain nonchalantly taxied to position on runway 24R, he received his take-off clearance. He added thrust to the engines on the giant airplane before it came to a stop. The airplane lumbered slowly at first, but then gathered steam as the airspeed increased. As the aircraft approached 135 knots, the First Officer glanced forward noticing some seagulls rising off the runway ahead of them. The impact was heard and felt. The airplane lurched to one side a bit, as the left engine surged then quit with a shudder. “V1” was annunciated, which meant it was too late to abort the take-off. “Rotate” was called so the Captain gently pulled back on the control column. He didn’t pitch up as much due to the engine failure. Just as they were getting airborne, the fire indication illuminated on the failed engine.



“Oh great” said the Captain; “Ok. Autopilot on.” He waited till 400 feet above ground and called “Fire Drill.” The First Officer responded, “Roger,” “Confirm A/T Disarm”...“Disarm,” “Confirm Left Thrust Lever Idle”...“Idle,” and continued until the fire drill was complete. When the right altitude was attained, the crew proceeded to clean up the aircraft by increasing airspeed and then retracted the flaps. The Engine Fire checklist was completed, and then they communicated with ATC to declare an emergency.

“Ok, guys, that was great. I’m going to reset you on the ground at the button of the runway,” their Simulator Instructor said. “According to the script, you get to try that scenario again. I would have talked to ATC a little sooner though, maybe while you were waiting for the speed to increase to retract the flaps.” The Instructor continued, “Remember: Aviate...Navigate...Communicate.”

That’s the great thing about simulators, we can practice until we get procedures near perfect. There are some important life lessons we can learn from this kind of

training. We have a motto, “Train as You Fly, Fly as You Train.” This presupposes that what you do in practice will most likely reflect what you will do in real life, especially in an emergency. Just about everything we do well has been attained by practice, which has been directed by some manual and/or instructor. The training always starts in the mind through study and thinking.

The mind, and for that matter the heart, can be kind of like a simulator. What you practice in your heart and your mind, you may eventually end up doing. That is why in Romans 12 we are instructed to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

The instruction is to transform our life by meditating on, and obeying, God’s Word. The body doesn’t function well if it is not healthy. In the same way, the mind does not function well if it is not healthy. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. What we allow in our mind or heart is crucial to our relationship with God. There are things we should not allow in our hearts and minds. When we allow the Word of God to flow freely in us, we start to change within. It gives us freedom and peace, and that is something we all desire and need to experience!

From experience in training we observe that when accidents occur usually it is because of simple basic things not done well. In the spiritual life, it is often the same. We train our heart and mind with God’s Word so when adverse things occur, we have a good and right base upon which to stand. Spend some time meditating and memorizing God’s Word.

“Let the Word dwell richly within you....”
Colossians 3:16

(This article was written by Danny Servos. Danny is a retired Captain with Air Canada, based in Toronto, Canada. He also serves on our FCAP Board of Director and the planning team for our FCAP Ski Adventure.)

THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

History:

The ministry of FCAP began in 1971 and was incorporated in 1973 when 50 people from eight different airlines in the United States and Canada met to consider how God wanted them to serve Christ in and through the airline industry. Since that time, the ministry of FCAP has spread in over 90 areas of the world. We do not have a membership or dues; rather we are a fellowship among Christians in the airline industry worldwide that share a common commitment and focus.



Perspective & Focus:

Most people look at work primarily as a source of income. Some even view it as a curse imposed on them as punishment from God. *The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel* believes that God places a high value on work and is deeply interested in our work, our performance on the job and our relationships with our co-workers. We recognize that both our work and the way we relate to people in the workplace are of great importance to God. So it is our mission: *“To represent Christ in the airlines through meaningful relationships and quality work.”*

FCAP’s two-fold purpose encourages people to *know and experience God’s presence with them at work* and to *trust Him for the enabling strength in the responsibilities and challenges of work*. We see authentic ministry in the workplace as a result of our displaying this relationship to our Lord within the sphere of our influence at work, without being coercive or self-serving.

Values:

- We value doing our work wholeheartedly as unto the Lord, knowing we represent Christ by the quality of our performance while on the job (Ephesians 6:6).
- We value intentionally engaging our faith in the workplace by expressing it in both deeds and words (1 Timothy 6:17-19).
- We value influencing the people around us by creatively building relationship with them and looking out for their interest just as we do our own.
- We value connecting the church in the workplace by seeking out other Christians, to mutually show our love for one another and our care for the people God has placed around us (John 13:35).

Making Your Connection:

Like the airline industry is all about making connections, so FCAP is all about Christians making their connection in the workplace in three basic ways:

- Connecting God’s purposes in the details of your work.
- Connecting ministry to God working through you to influence the people and circumstances of work.
- Connecting the church in the workplace in unique and creative ways, in order to extend and strengthen its influence.

- WE OFFER:**
- Training that helps Christians integrate the Christian faith into the everyday details of our work and its challenges.
 - Free publications and weekly thoughts that offer encouragement, gives focus, and provides information.
 - Support and fellowship through local groups, prayer network, training sessions, special events and conferences.



The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

The ministry of FCAP is carried on by everyday ordinary people throughout the airline workplaces of the world who go to work with an extraordinary calling. The FCAP ministry does not focus on specialized people, nor are we a special interest group focusing on certain issues. We do not have a membership nor are we a club with dues. Rather, FCAP is a fellowship of Christians who identify with one another through a common focus and purpose. And we desire to demonstrate how our faith in Jesus Christ can influence the people and circumstances of our workplace. We are blessed to have both airline and non-airline people who encourage and support this ministry.

OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD

Your Next Step:

Check on the FCAP website to see if there is a group in your area, or seek out and connect with other Christians at your workplace. Contact us at the international office for further assistance or click on [“Connect With Us”](#) on the website.



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