

The Fountain of Life

April 2017

It has been said that there is a *God-shaped vacuum* in the heart of every human. God made humans this way to remind us that only He can fill our life with meaning and purpose that ultimately fulfill us. And when we ignore or reject God, we end up trying to find this by filling our lives with temporary things and momentary pleasures. These eventually become like our idols, where we end up sacrificing our own integrity, our respect for others and sacrificing those who are closest to us. In due course, we discover, even when our life is full of things and pleasurable experiences, that we feel empty and find no contentment and meaning for our life.

There is an interesting story in the book of Jeremiah, where the prophet Jeremiah is talking to people who had known God, but decided to pursue things, not God, to define their life. He likened these people to being thirsty, those needing water to sustain their life. Jeremiah illustrated two sources available. One was a spring of flowing fresh water that came up from the depth of the earth. It was also described as a fountain that provided clean and tasty water and was the most reliable. However, the other was a man-made cistern or container, often found in the crevice of rocks, used to hold rain water. Such cisterns were unreliable, because the water would leak due to cracks, and the water that did not leak was often stagnant and not fresh. The deep spring water represents God and a continual source of satisfaction, and the cisterns represent the emptiness of human pursuits and achievements without God.

Jeremiah's comparison is striking...any group of people or person who forgets or rejects God is like one who would abandon a spring of running (living) water for a cistern. For someone to turn from a dependable, pure stream of running water and choose a broken, brackish cistern seems

ludicrous...but in comparison so is filling my life with stuff rather than receiving what God has for me. Empty!

"My people have committed a double wrong: they have rejected me, the fountain of life-giving water, and they have dug cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns which cannot even hold water." (Jeremiah 2:13)

Jesus once had a conversation with a woman at a well or fountain. She came regularly to draw water to quench her thirst. She also came there with deep thirst to find love and security in relationships, but most likely had been used and even abused by them. Jesus, knowing this, first asks her for water, and then offers her water, whereby she would not thirst again. As God, Jesus' offer was what only God can provide.

"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14)

Are you trying to fill your life with things in order to define and fulfill it? Material things and pleasures are not wrong, for God gives us such things to enjoy within His prescribed boundaries. When we leave God out, we become possessed by things which become like gods whom we serve and for whom we make sacrifices. Fulfillment and enjoyment of life cannot be found in the things themselves, but in the Lord God who made all things, and who alone can provide for us the ability to enjoy them. (PMC)

"God, who generously supplies us with all things to enjoy...." (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

From God's source,
The FCAP Staff

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 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.



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

136 Providence Road
Fayetteville, GA 30215
(770) 461-9320
office@fcap.org

www.FCAP.org

Copyright © 2017 Volume 7, Issue 4