

IN THE **JETSTREAM**



Dress Rehearsal for Work

June 2012

When you were a child, did you ever play a part in a play? I remember doing this. They first gave me three lines to memorize and rehearse. Before the performance itself, I had a rehearsal with others who would perform in the play. The better I memorized my lines and rehearsed it, the more I became like the character that I was asked to play.

In a similar way, we become the character that we rehearse regularly regarding our work. Allow me to explain. Maybe you've had a falling away with a co-worker and as you process the incident, you begin rehearsing your response (your own script) just like a part in a play. As you memorize your response and even rehearse it on your way to and from work, you become very familiar with the lines, and you may even add on some tones and even gestures in how you will act it out. Then you rehearse your lines about the situation to another co-worker during a break at work. Whether you've set a time or not for the drama to take place, you are ready any time to act out the part you've rehearsed.

Do you find yourself doing dress rehearsals over work scenarios on a regular basis? This is not unusual, and actually it can be beneficial...depending on where you get the script. But also it can be very detrimental. In His Word, God describes the human heart as a script maker for life's situations. We are told that out of the heart the mouth speaks. But it goes on to tell that out of the heart can come evil thoughts, false testimony, slander, anger, lust and a host of other things (Mark 7:21-23). Uniquely, the Christian faith does not try to reform people's outward actions first, like most religions do. Instead, God performs a change to the inner person of the

heart (2 Corinthians 5:17) through forgiveness and reconciliation. Then we become connected in a living relationship with God, which gives us a new orientation and ability greater than ourselves.

God now asks us to continually refresh our thoughts by thinking His thoughts (Romans 12:1-2). He also asks us to cast down every thought that is opposed to His ways and to bring those thoughts captive under submission to Christ. This is more than a Sunday alter call or confessional, it is living and working daily with a proactive faith

that intentionally focuses on God and allows the coordinates of His Word to guide us in our responses. What does this look like when I am in conflict with a co-worker? First, I renounce the inclination of my own heart which can be accusing, resentful, and tend to give to people what I think they deserve. Then I begin to think about God's prescribed way of responding to them, by first praying for them and then considering how I can return to them in the same way God did for me when I was not deserving it. Also, my heart is changed by rehearsing these things, so that when the opportunity comes, I am better prepared to take steps of faith that reflect God's ways instead of vent the intent of my heart.

The question comes down to this...whose script will you allow yourself to follow? The one your heart produces on its own apart from God, or maybe you're imitating someone else's lines? The best script comes from a heart that submits to God and relies on His prescribed responses in His Word. (PMC)

Looking Unto Him,
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 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 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 “Your Next Step” on the website.



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