



Flight Delays of Life...

January 2011

Everyone knows about flight delays. They seem to create all kinds of problems for passengers as well as airline employees. Because of them, people's expectations are delayed, denied, and even changed. But consider for a moment ... if we could know why such delays happen, we might look at them differently. For instance, if we knew that our flight would encounter a serious problem after take off due to severe weather or a mechanical problem, we probably would gratefully accept the delay at the gate. There are others reasons for delays ... some happen because of air traffic congestion. Sometimes they may occur out of necessity in dealing with a sick or unruly passenger. However, most people become annoyed with flight delays, because it disrupts their plans and expectations. Passengers and employees will spend much of their time and energy becoming upset, frustrated and even angry, over a situation they have little or no control over.

Like the airline industry, life has delays. Maybe you feel you should be at a certain point in your career, or be married, or have children, or own a home. And because you have not yet reach your goal, you feel your life is delayed, like in a holding pattern and you are "stuck". The fact is...everyday life is full of delays, in one degree or another. What we must focus on in these delayed situations is the bigger view. God is sovereign, and He has the big picture in view, for reasons better than what we can see. God is not interested in just achieving our goals and expectations. He knows if we learn to fix our eyes on Him at each juncture, the process will be as valuable as the final outcome itself. You may not be at the point in your life as you had hoped at this time. I have heard stories

how such delays have taught some people how their success, security, and positions are best in the hands of God. Because of life's delays some have found a different and better direction in life. In one case a person did not advance in their job, yet when the company had to lay off people in higher positions, they were able to keep theirs. You may feel lonely or frustrated, because of the delay in your expectation to be married. However, the delay may have prevented you from being in a wrong relationship or is teaching you to enter it in the right way and for the right reasons.

Life's delays are not always enjoyable. Actually, they often are unpleasant and bring discomfort. However, let's not miss what we could be gaining through them. They are created for a greater purpose we cannot see and to bring personal growth in our lives.

When we choose to fret over them, we miss out on what we could be gaining through them. We mustn't forget that our Heavenly Father knows what to give us and the right timing in which to do so. If we truly believe God knows best and is working all things together for good (Romans 8:28-29), then we will have a different view of life's delays. Instead of focusing on figuring them out or fixing them, let's ask our Lord what can we gain from them. (PMC)

"Fix your hope not on things that are uncertain ... but on God who supplies us all things to enjoy." (Paraphrase of 1Timothy 6:12)

Fixing Our Hope in 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.

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.



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

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

www.FCAP.org

OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD

Volume 1, Issue 1