

IN THE JETSTREAM



Where the Real Battles Rage

March 2014

We hear a lot in the news these days about wars and battles around the world. Politicians, the news media, and even the church will offer their views as to why they are happening. People in high positions will explain their strategies on how they plan to avoid or how they plan to engage in these wars.

Personally we may not be involved in such a battle. However, you could be involved in the battles of an industry that is facing mergers, job losses, repositioning, or pay-cuts, which often produce poor morale, fear, resentment and a host of other heart wrenching ailments.

First of all, we must realize that these sorts of battles are real and unavoidable. Recognizing that the root sources of these battles don't stem from the airline industry itself will help us work through them. Our workplace is only the battlefield where the drama of it is being played out.

These battles have been declared on us by three opponents, two of them stand apart from us and the third is in us. The Lord describes these three opponents as... *the world, the devil, and the flesh.*

First, the "world" here means the world's system and not the physical world of plants, animals and minerals. It is the epitome of what humanity does without God. For instance, 1 John 2:15-17 describes how the world measures and determines what is important. It tells us how the world system encourages people to pursue a fulfilling life, by satisfying their desires and wants. The world system also measures importance by the status people gain in the eyes of others. Lastly, we are told how it measures importance by people's accomplishments and their boasting in their achievements.

The second opponent, the devil, is a real spiritual being, who is seeking our demise. He is stronger than we are, yet his power is limited and cannot be exercised independent of God's sovereignty. His strategy for creating chaos, fear, and bitterness in our life is done primarily by diverting our focus off of God and putting it on other things (1 Peter 5:8-9). As Christians we give the devil power in our lives when we relinquish our faith and obedience in the Lord.

Lastly, the "flesh" is our third opponent, and it is part of our makeup. Though the term "flesh"

has complex usage in the Bible, it is spelled out in no uncertain terms. The flesh is described as a law or principle in each of us that opposes God (Romans 7:18). Its deeds are described in Galatians 5:19-21 as acts that can be personally and relationally destructive. However, upon our salvation in Christ we received the Holy Spirit, guaranteeing His saving work (Ephesians 1:13-14), by whom the deeds of the flesh can be rendered powerless (Roman 8:13). Furthermore, the Bible tells us that the flesh wars against the Spirit and these two stand in opposition to one another, creating an intense battle within us.

Knowing that these opponents are influencing your work and workplace, your engagement can only become effective when you realize that, "*the battle is not yours, but God's*" (2 Chronicles 20:15).

Under His mighty hand,
The FCAP Staff



Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

www.fcap.org

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.



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OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD