

IN THE JETSTREAM



Work... More Than Survival

February 2014

You may be thinking...religion and work don't mix well. To a point, I agree. You can't or shouldn't conduct religious services within a corporate environment. But, can faith be an asset and bring another dimension to a person's workplace? This would all depend on what your religious faith believes and teaches about work...something I would encourage you to look into.

Some of today's ideas want to explain that work somehow evolved out of the need to survive. And some current scientific theories about human origin have coined the idea that work leads back to the survival of the fittest. Those who hold to these views conclude that work was derived out of this basic instinct. This theory may appropriately describe the reason for labor among animals... primarily to survive. However, there is not much evidence that animals think beyond surviving in their own habitat. But there is much more to human involvement in work than mere survival. Why? Because a big part of why humans work, besides providing food and shelter, is to create things that enhance our life in many ways...something animals cannot do. Humans have created education, governing structure, law, health resources, and the list goes on. Just consider how humans have improved the way we travel just in the last century alone.

From a Christian point of view...you cannot separate God from work. The connection is much more than simply injecting religious activity into the workplace. Why? Because work originated and was

designed from the hand of our Creator. He gave humans the task to work as an expression of their being created in His image. The Christian world and life view defines work as an assignment for humans to participate with their Creator. Because the world has order to it, humans can creatively develop things from the resources He has designed and provided. *In the opening chapters of the Bible God tells the first two humans that He*



created all this for them to have dominion over creation. The word "dominion" carries the idea of their responsibility to creatively utilize resources available to them in the world as a service to God and others. However, when humans disregard God, they distort His design of things. Work is one of those things that has been distorted, by greed, selfishness, and enslaving people. Though work has been deformed by human abuses, its origin and purpose are clear and have not changed... it is a good thing!

The Christian faith presents a view of work that cannot be overlooked by its critics. Though other faiths and views refer to work as something that naturally evolved, the Christian faith states that work was designed and authorized by God as part of the creation order. This gives dignity to workers and their work. (PMC)

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God!"
1 Corinthean 10:31

For God's Glory,
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.

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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