

# IN THE JETSTREAM



## The Real Motive of Christmas

December 2015

Some two thousand years ago, God announced to a group of humble shepherds, through an angel, the Good News that was said to be **for all people in all times**. That night they were told that the Lord of the universe had come and entered the human realm, by being born as a baby. He grew up and lived a humble life. He would learn obedience because it was required of Him, being God in the flesh, and would follow His Father's instructions even to the point of dying a death in order to offer forgiveness of sin and new life. And why did God do this extraordinary act? We are told, because He was rich in mercy and that out of His great love, He loved us.

There is no greater motive in this world than a life expressed and lived out of love. God demonstrated that by sending Jesus Christ into this world to become our Savior and provide us with the greatest gift of all...eternal life. The true message of Christmas can only be enjoyed when the motive of God's love is understood. God did not love us because He needed someone to love or someone to love Him. He created us in His image to be the objects of His love and to have a relationship with Him. As He freely offers His love to us, we are invited to receive it as a gift. Christmas in today's world is mostly celebrated by the giving of gifts based on conditional motives. However, the healthiest relationships in this world are formed by offering and receiving love **freely** as a gift, something that is becoming less a part of our homes and cultures. If you don't experience love in this way, you feel like a debtor and the only other option you have is to continuously strive to prove you are worthy of being loved. Sadly, in doing so, it never really provides you the opportunity of enjoying it. We are told that this kind of



love leads to fear and slavery.

After following Jesus Christ for over three years and watching Him die and rise from the dead, the apostle John gives a wonderful summary in 1 John 4: *"This is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the payment for our sins"* (verse 10); *"We love, because He (God) first loved us"* (verse 19). The profound message of Christianity is that love is not earned by effort nor achieved by ingenuity, it can only be received as a gift, **freely given**. Trying to gain it any other way only taints our life with mixed motives, fears, and regrets. The Apostle John also proclaimed that when we come to rely on the love that God has for us, fear will not control us but it will be love that compels us (1 John 4:16-18).

This wonderful message of God's love expresses the real message and meaning of Christmas... God became a human like us and met our greatest need. This should be the driving force of our lives and cause us to be grateful people, and share His love **freely** at Christmas and throughout the year.

*"Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself (Jesus Christ) likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives."* (Hebrews 2:14-15)

Merry Christmas!  
The FCAP International Office Staff

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Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

[www.fcap.org](http://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 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.

## 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.



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OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD

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