

IN THE JETSTREAM



Missing the Obvious...?

February 2015

Sometimes we go to great extent in our methods to reach people with the message and meaning of Christianity. We will put up banners on roadsides stating “God Loves You” or “Jesus Is Coming Back” with hopes that multitudes of people passing by will catch a glimpse. If we are not so bold or direct in our approach, maybe we can join others in organizing a crusade for people to hear the Christian message proclaimed. Then there is the time spent on recruiting people and planning projects to involve people in church programs or mission trips abroad. Most of these things have their rightful place, but the process often leads people to think that in order for ministry work to be valid and recognized, one must remove oneself from the routine of life for a time.



It's not that complicated! If your church were to send you on a mission's trip, you would go there to meet with people, help them with their needs, pray with them, and just be their friend and love them. Doesn't your workplace offer the same opportunities?

Don't miss the obvious... According to God, missions must first start right where you are. In God's Word, Christ tells us to love our neighbor, and then He defines who our neighbor is... those who are in close proximity and in need (Luke 10:30-37). Maybe we miss the obvious because we don't see people's needs or we don't want to get involved in people's needs at work; that could take time and be quite challenging. Thus going on a mission trip could seem easier. However, God's strategy is for us to first engage with the people He's puts around us in our everyday life. Now, God does send His people on short term mission projects. However, missions should not be detached from our personal sphere of influence.

There is a true story about a man in Africa who was

intrigued with the possibility of gaining great wealth by mining for diamonds. He sold his farm so he could fund his pursuit and travel abroad to find his diamond mine.

After many years of searching and finding nothing, he was penniless, sick, and depressed to the point of taking his own life. After his death, the farmer who had bought his land was out working it one day and discovered a stone that ended up being one of the largest diamonds in the world. Further investigation revealed that the entire farm was literally covered with similar magnificent stones. The farm sold by the first farmer turned out to be one of the richest, most productive diamond mines in the world at that time. Could we be guilty of spending a lot of time and money to direct people to opportunities for ministry both near and far away, while neglecting to encourage and equip them to capitalize on the ones that exist around them daily in their workplace? It's where they will spend approximately 90,000 hours of their life... a harvest field of precious opportunities!

Let us ask God to open our eyes and become aware of opportunities around us at work. It may be that we must first re-evaluate how we view and expect opportunities, and become willing and intentional about reaching out to the needs of people around us. (PMC)

“Love the Lord God with all your heart...and love your neighbor as yourself. And who is my neighbor? The one who showed mercy to the one in need... Jesus said, go and do likewise.”

(Luke 10:25-37 full account)

In His Harvest,
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 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.

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 [“Connect With Us”](#) on the website.



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