

IN THE JETSTREAM



Preparing for the Storm

January 2015

As airline employees, one of the distinctions we share is that of having to prepare for what can be the worst possible of headlines, an aircraft disaster. Professionals that make up our industry have created what may be considered the safest culture for any form of transportation. However, the media frenzy, as a result of the recent AirAsia 8501 crash, for example, puts us in a most unwelcoming spotlight, even though airlines now spend millions of dollars to prepare for such possible disasters. “Emergency Response Teams,” “Incident Recovery Teams,” “Care Teams,” and “Go Teams” are different names for various groups of airline employees who are trained and drill to respond to aircraft catastrophes. These teams must first sit down and examine possible worst case scenarios. They need to ask tough questions so contingency plans can be laid out. Then, when the unthinkable does happen, they can respond to it quickly and efficiently, with care and concern for all affected by the tragedy.

As Christians, we are called to do much the same ... examine and prepare. Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew, “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock.” (7:24-25)

What better time than the start of the year 2015 to prepare with these thoughts in mind: “Am I building my house upon The Rock?”, “Is my salvation built upon the truths of Scripture or my own thoughts and pre-conceived notions?”, “Am I truly seeking to live a life

that is guided by the very Words of our Lord?” There will be storms that come or ‘burst’ against us, sooner or later. Let us examine our house now, so we can be assured it will withstand all that comes against it in the future! Jesus says it is a wise man that builds correctly; he doesn’t do shoddy work or build upon sand.



Another matter to consider in preparation for the upcoming year is our ministry. In keeping with a theme of building a lasting house, Paul again discusses the materials and the foundation relating to a man’s works: “Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, each man’s work will become evident” (1 Corinthians 3:12).

Our fruits of ministry will one day be tested by fire; the wood, hay, and straw will be burned up, and only the good materials will remain forever. It’s not enough to just express our desires to do good things ... we must also be doing them. Only then can our ministry withstand the test of fire. Do I purposefully engage those around me to build lasting relationships? Do I do my work diligently and with quality? Are my actions advancing the Kingdom of God? Am I doing all things without grumbling and complaining? As we move into the year 2015, we would do well to examine our life and ministry and change those things that are deficient so that we will be secure when the storms come. (TCF)

(This article was written by Tim Files. Tim works for Delta Air Lines and also serves on our FCAP Board of Directors.)

*Happy New Year!
... from 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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