

## RUNWAYS

April 2018

Airplanes connect the dots. Runways are touch-and-go. Airports enable those transiting to move on; they are not meant for residents.

Runways are capable of withstanding the traffic of aircraft they are intended to serve. The world's busiest airports can accommodate an aircraft every 40 seconds. Their runways need to be of a strong constitution, *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might"* (Ephesians 6:10).



Runways should be obstacle free, *"Cast your cares on the LORD and He will sustain you"* (Psalm 55:23), have well-marked boundaries, and be well lighted, *"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"* (Psalm 119:105). They need to be able to withstand frequent friction causing erosion, and provide grip, *"... I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:12).

Runways need to be kept up, by removing residual rubber, *"... let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles"* (Hebrews 12:1). How is that done? By keeping the lights clean, re-painting markings, and evaluating its integrity. It is important to get rid of foreign objects, to repair cracks, and to reseal joints, *"Moreover if your brother shall trespass against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone: if he shall hear you, you have gained your brother"* (Matthew 18:15). The grass around the runway should be well cut, paths should be clear and free from standing water to provide grip, *"Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall"* (Romans 14:13).

Runways are a welcomed sight ... they receive the aircraft at the end of a long flight. They go the distance to allow safe landings and take offs. They stay put ... staying in place and firmly grounded in order to help others reach their desired

destination. Their only agenda is to receive the aircraft. As God's people, we are to be *"... rooted and grounded in love"* (Ephesians 3:17), helping others reach their fullest potential in Christ.

Aircraft unload their precious cargo, which includes human lives, baggage and goods from all over. Runways become avenues for rest, restoration and refueling.

We can use the analogy of the runway in our service to the Lord and to one another. God not only speaks to us through His created order, but even through the functionality of runways. It is important to know where one fits in the larger picture. Did you know that there is an abandoned runway at Disney Airport that still plays a song when driven over at a minimum of roughly 45 miles per hour? Though no longer active within the workplace, those who are retired or shut in due to physical limitations can still serve as a runway in the lives of others. In creative ways they can continue to bring gladness to heavy hearts.

What contribution can we make to those with whom we come in contact? *"From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work"* (Ephesians 4:16).

How about being a "runway" for the Lord? ■

*(This article was written by Ana Duarte (MIA). Ana has been an integral part of our FCAP family for many years. She worked for Eastern Air Lines as a manager of general sales agents and for Iberia Airlines at their frequent flyer desk. Having a passion for Latin America, Ana has been instrumental in connecting FCAP with that part of the airline world. Each month she faithfully translates this publication into Spanish to God's glory.)*

# 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 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 relationships 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. 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