

TRANSIT AND DESTINATION

June 2018

Since 1998, Hartsfield/Jackson Atlanta International Airport has been named the world busiest airport. This is not a title that just any airport can hold. It takes a lot of coordination, hard work and dedication for this to happen. We can say that the Atlanta Airport workers are hard working people because it falls on their shoulders for the airport to keep that status.

When we are talking about workers, we are not leaving anyone behind. Among the workers that help Atlanta to keep that number one “busyness” status are the cleaners, restaurants workers, TSA agents, airline employees, customs officers etc. We even have people who are not residents of the City of Atlanta and its surrounding areas, or even the State of Georgia that come to make their contribution to that great success. For example, the non-Atlanta-based crews and the delivery truck drivers from different states are all participants.

As a world traveler, a Georgia resident and an airline employee, I am always amazed every time I set foot in the airport facility in Atlanta. Going through the seven concourses and seeing all of the movement, anyone can attest to the busyness of that airport. In spite of being the busiest airport, the Hartsfield/Jackson International airport is also a connection city. In its record keeping in 2012, Atlanta Airport officials report that one hundred million people traveled through the gateway city on some 950,000 flights. All of that effort is collaborated by the City of Atlanta to transit people to their final destination.

This is similar to the situation of Christians who live on this earth, which is a transitional port, yet some view it as a final destination. If you enter the mind of King Solomon, he would say, “... for all is vanity and grasping for the wind” (Ecclesiastes 2:17). Jesus said, “In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself; that where I

am, there you may be also” (John 14:2-3).

God has coordinated a lot of effort to rescue us and to make us understand that there is a final destination that we must reach; that we need to live on this earth as travelers and not residents. Christ has given believers many examples in Scripture to remind us that we are not earthly or worldly. “So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed” (Ephesians 4:17-19).

We cannot be the actor Tom Hanks in the movie *The Terminal*. Furthermore, we cannot afford to be lost in the busyness of this world (like many passengers do in the world busiest airport, asking to be rebooked for a flight for eight days later). Don’t be like others who travel without a confirmed destination, and willing to go to whatever place.

“Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 3:17-20)

(This article was written by Monix Mathieu who serves on staff with FCAP in Leadership and Group Development.)

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.



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

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OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD