

IN THE JETSTREAM



What's Your Approach?

November 2014

All of us have a natural desire to have the “upper hand” when conflicts arise. This built-in instinct can work to our good when applied in life threatening situations. However, it tends to create fallout and complicate circumstances when we take this position in working out problems with people. The desire to be right or to be the winner ends up being the driving force in resolving the matter. Typically, such an approach goes like this – we concisely and passionately point out our adversary by exposing his or her wrong motives and actions, while making ourselves look as good a possible. We also see this technique used in our legal system. Each side seeks to win the case by defeating the other side and usually shows no interest in taking steps to restore damaged and broken relationships when possible. Our news media does it this way: When reporting a story about two opposing sides, they focus almost entirely on their differences and say little or nothing about a solution. Acting solely on our basic instinct in working out problems falls far too short of God's approach!

God's approach tells us to look at ourselves first of all no matter how little or how much I have contributed to creating or prolonging the conflict. God stresses the importance of the way things are said, for He instructs us to “*Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.*” Right wording is important, but communicating the words in a compassionate way encourages mutual understanding. God's approach is one that encourages mutual respect for and from each side. He instructs us to “*...be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for*

the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.”



When we talk about “approach” we mean how we come across to one another. When we are working with people we like and all is going well, it is easy to approach people in a reciprocating way. The Bible tells us it's easy to love those who love us but goes on to say there is nothing exceptional about that. But when we show love to those who don't like us or those with whom we are in conflict, we bear the

likeness of our Heavenly Father.

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be like your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:44-45)

How are you coming across to your co-worker who differs from your moral and ethical views or with whom you have a conflict? What are your tone of voice, your body language, and gestures conveying? Is it frustration, coldness, and dislike, or is it patience, concern, and love? We are told in the Bible that as a person thinks in his or her heart, so they are in real life. (Proverb 23:7) That being true, we need to examine our hearts in order to evaluate how we come across to our coworkers, especially those who are different from us. (PMC)

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.” (Psalm 139:23-24)

In His Presence,
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.



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).

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.

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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