



November 2018

DOES YOUR RETIREMENT NEED A LIFELINE CONNECTION?

Webster's dictionary says retirement is: an act of retiring, the state of being retired, withdrawal from one's position or occupation or from active working life, a place of seclusion or privacy. For most pilots, we have mandatory regulations that force us out of the job that we have enjoyed and loved for many years. We have traveled at 600 mph for years and years and have interacted with hundreds of crew members. Just like fellow employees in all other job positions, we have worked hard to help provide a needed service for thousands upon thousands of passengers over the years. WOW ... you then turn a certain age and wake up one morning realizing your fast-paced, exciting professional career is over.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Like many others, I looked at the workplace as my ministry, something that the Lord had blessed me with over 40 years for His honor and glory. I believe that many of us feel like we lose some of our identity after retirement. On the other hand, some people can't wait to retire and get away from their job. Whether you are getting close or have already retired, there are many things to consider. You will be thinking about when you will draw Social Security or sign up for Medicare, what kind of medical or dental insurance policy is now needed, to whom you will look for help with finances, how you should handle your pension, 401(k) and other investments that you have laid away. There is also the really big question, "Do I have enough resources to retire on and live comfortably?" Undoubtedly many men and women that have retired struggle mentally, physically, spiritually and maybe even financially. I think we all have felt a little empty, even somewhat depressed or all alone, wondering what we will do now or where we fit in. My prayer as I think about some of these things is, "Help me, Lord, to stay in Your will, follow Your path and to put You first in my next adventurous journey."

NO NEED TO FEAR

There is no need to fear because our Great God is always near and we will find all the answers in His Word. Let's look briefly at what He would say to you today: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). Aren't you thankful there is no age restriction? With all our many needs, I have always remembered Philippians 4:19, "And my God will supply your every need according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus" and Psalm 37:25, "I have been young, and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor His children begging for bread." Jesus also said "I am the bread of life: he that comes to Me shall never hunger, and he that believes on Me shall never thirst again." Those are such wonderful comforting words for all no matter what stage of life you are in.

OUR IDENTITY

We also have to remember where our identity comes from. We are made the "righteousness of God" through faith in Jesus Christ, no matter who we are (Romans 3:22). We also are joined to the Lord and are one spirit with Him (1 Corinthians 6:17). In Psalm 37:23 we are reminded, "The steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord: and He delights in his way."

A REMARKABLE EXAMPLE

So many of us remember Joe Ivey, who was one of the original founders of FCAP back in 1971. We just recently celebrated his victorious home going to be in the presence of Almighty God for all eternity. As true believers in Christ, we too will be headed that way someday. However, I always think of 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore my beloved brothers, be steadfast immovable always abounding in the work of the Lord knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." Joe set such a great example for each one of us to continue in the Lord's work, even at 85 years of age. How remarkable that Joe always had that "lifeline connection" with people. He was very blessed and gifted to preach, teach, share, encourage others, pray, and support the Lord's work with his resources. The love of God was so transparent in his life every day. Joe's life reflected 2 Timothy 4:7-8, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

BEING A LIFELINE CONNECTION

We are never too old, and it is never too late, to go out and be a blessing. There are many ways those who have retired from the airline/aviation workplace can continue to encourage and serve others who remain in the industry. (If you would like to know more about specific opportunities that exist, please contact the FCAP International Office.) May we allow God to use us to bring a "lifeline connection" as a retiree. In times when we may feel weary or unqualified, may we hang on to His nail-scarred hand as He strengthens and equips us for His purposes. (JL)

"The Lord bless thee and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Numbers 6:24-26

This article was written by Jerry Litwiller, retired Captain with United Air Lines. He also serves as President of our FCAP Board of Directors. Jerry's ministry throughout the airline/aviation world over the years has been strongly supported by his wife Barbara, son Joshua and daughter Brittany.

Our FCAP PHONE PRAYER CONFERENCE is held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. EST. Contact office@fcap.org or call 770.461.9320 for details.



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 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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