



January 2020

Of Work and Rest

From its beginning in the early 1970s, the vision of the FCAP has existed to encourage Christians to connect in every area of the workplace so they might display God's glory and be an influence on the job. We emphasize "work" so that believers will understand that, although it is full of trouble, it is also full of blessing. The foundation of work began in the Garden of Eden when God gave Adam the task of cultivating and keeping it (Genesis 2:15). Solomon confirmed the goodness of it, an intimate gift of God (Ecclesiastes 3:13). Jesus worked as a carpenter (Mark 6:3), a master at that trade. Paul also placed a stamp upon work, himself being a tentmaker (Acts 18:3). Our niche as a ministry is a focus upon work as it relates to Christianity, and how one's faith reflects things divine when challenged.

TWO DISTINCT REALMS

Work exists in two distinct, cooperating realms. A physical one, in which we labor to create wealth to provide for ourselves, family and others, and a spiritual one, which involves serving others to perpetuate the Kingdom of God. The Gospels speak of the works of Christ. For example, in John we read, "...for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish, the very works that I do, testify about Me..." (5:36). His "works of the Father" began as a carpenter's apprentice, and is ongoing today, since He is both preparing a place for us (John 14:2-3) and interceding continually for us before the Father (Hebrews 7:25).

For the believer, the Bible is clear that we are to "do our work heartily, as for the Lord" (Colossians 3:23) regarding our career, but also to "show our faith by our works" as James says (2:18) concerning our ministry. The two are indistinguishable, for many spiritual opportunities arise from us being on the job, and we encounter much labor while employing spiritual gifts.

GOD-SIZED VIEW OF REST

As FCAP places much emphasis on a "God-sized View of Work," a "God-sized View of Rest" also exists. "And He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done" (Genesis 2:2). Though God was not tired, He "ceased from exertion." Later, when Moses returned from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments, the fourth commandment centered around God's concern for our rest from labor. God commanded a day to refrain from business: "Remember the Sabbath day, to

keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; on it, you shall not do any work..." (Exodus 20:8-9).

LOOKING TOWARD ETERNITY

Observing the Sabbath (or "Lord's Day") strengthens us psychologically, physically, mentally, and spiritually. However, this weekly rest is temporary and brings about only a momentary renewal. But there is another rest in the Scriptures. Hallelujah, this rest will be eternal! God has reserved this repose for the saints.

The author of Hebrews describes this permanent respite: "For we who have believed enter that rest..." (Hebrews 4:3). Some never saw the promised land, and some will never see Heaven. Our mission on earth revolves around the excellent work of showing others who Jesus Christ is from the Scriptures, "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:30). We desire a rest for ourselves, but also those around us, and ought to perform our duties in such a way that magnifies Christ, "Let your light shine in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

We must never lose sight of the everlasting hope of one day being in the very presence of Jesus Christ. Our goal: To go to where He is, and take as many people with us as possible.

In 2020, would you examine each of these and pray for a proper balance?

- My Career
- My Ministry
- My Sabbatical
- My Salvation



**Happy New Year from FCAP
and may grace abound in and around you.**

This article was written by Tim Files, an Aircraft Systems Analyst with Delta Air Lines. Tim also serves as Secretary-Treasurer on our FCAP Board of Directors, assists in facilitating FCAP trainings, and represents FCAP at functions throughout the world. His wife, Carol, faithfully joins him in ministry both near and far.



Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel
www.fcap.org



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*"If I ride the morning winds to the farthest oceans, even there
Your hand will guide me, Your strength will support me." Psalm 139: 9-10*

ABOUT US

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 to be "salt and light."

The **FCAP ministry** is neither a special interest group, nor are we for 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.



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 relation-

FCAP's mission: *"To represent Christ in the airlines/aviation industry through meaningful relationships and quality work worldwide."*

FCAP's 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.*



Join with others from around the world in prayer.
Our **FCAP VIDEO / PHONE PRAYER CONFERENCE**
is held on the second Tuesday of each month
at 10 am ET (1500 GMT).
Contact office@fcap.org or call +1 770.461.9320 for details.
Next dates: January 14 and February 11.

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 interests 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)

WE OFFER

- Training Sessions
- Prayer Networks
- Free Publications
- Weekly Thoughts
- Support and Fellowship

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