



March 2022

The Positive Side of Vulnerability

This past week was a tough one for our family. Our foster daughter went back to be with her birth mother after living with us for two years. She was our “pandemic baby.” She arrived in February 2020 in all her 16-month glory just as the world was starting to get very familiar with the word Covid-19. She supplied lots of laughter and hugs during those two years. She was a great “snuggle puppy.” Hugging a toddler just seems to make the world right even when she and you are dealing with some tough stuff. While we hope and pray it is best for her to be with her biological mother, it stung our hearts and I am sure we will always be grieving her departure from our home.

Revealing Ourselves to Others

The response we usually receive when we tell others about our journey as foster parents is, “I could never do that. I’d get too attached to them.” I am quick to respond that I cannot do it either. It is only by God’s grace and strength through our family that equips us to love these children and then surrender them. A piece of our heart always goes with them and the sting to the heart never gets less dull. We struggle just as any family would struggle.

The day we had our final court hearing I debated about letting a group of coworkers know about her impending departure. They knew about our foster daughter’s story because we were working together when she arrived. We are no longer working together, but we still have a group chat that usually involves jokes or aviation news. Many of the group members aren’t Christians. I was hesitant about whether I should share with them.

Our culture seems to encourage not revealing our emotions. Whenever someone asks how we are doing, we always put on a smile and say, “Great. How about you?” As Christians, I think we sometimes put even more pressure on ourselves to make sure we do not show cracks in our armor. We mistakenly

think we always need to show we have it together and exhibit the joy of the Lord no matter how we really feel. I did not want to be an Eeyore in the room, but I felt like God was nudging me. I told the group and asked them to pray for our family during this difficult season. I was humbled by their responses. They were all so encouraging and said they would be praying for us.

Jesus As Our Example

Jesus showed vulnerability, and it is why people could connect with him. He showed vulnerability by leaving his perfect heavenly home to dwell with us, fully God but fully man. Jesus is fully man amidst all the pains of this sinful world, grief, heartache, loss, rejection, and suffering. You name it and he has experienced it, so now we have a heavenly priest that can come by our side and comfort us. When we are vulnerable with our coworkers, it is an opportunity to connect with them and to point them to where our hope comes from.
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“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:14-16

This article was written by Stephen Watts. Stephen is a pilot with Delta Air Lines and also serves on our FCAP Board of Directors.



Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

*"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*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



Greetings FCAP Family and Friends,

We have a great promise from our Lord that He will lead us throughout life's journey (Psalm 23). Looking back, we often see how God turned our lives in certain directions, and as time goes on we see more clearly why. I can say this about my time in FCAP... the turns my life took years ago, eventually led me to accept the position of General Director of FCAP in 1992. The last 30 years have been an enriching and beautiful journey to say the least. So many wonderful friendships were made from different countries and cultures around the world. Because of it I appreciate much more how God creates His family and forms unity through diverse people. Also, so many wonderful stories were written by the hand of God through our fellowship together at conventions, events, local meetings, trainings, etc. Also, the amazing way the Lord led me to accept the invitation to attend the FCAP Austrian Ski Adventure in 1994... It was there, at Tauernhof, I met one of the staff named Claudette Allen. The rest is history... she became my wife in October 1995 and together we continued in this ministry. Incredibly thankful for all!

Now there is another turn approaching in our journey. I saw it coming and sought the Lord as to who and when. One morning in March 2020 I was awakened early, and the message, though not audible, was clear from the Lord... "Look for a person within FCAP." I had already had numerous conversations and interviews with potential people along the way. I started working closely with a few people in FCAP, and in time it became more obvious that one of the young men stood out to me. I observed him in more detail, how he exercised his gifts, abilities, dealt with problems, and how he handled people and communicated with them. His passion for the Lord and for FCAP were obvious to me. He had no idea about my thoughts, but finally in June of 2021 I approached him asking if he would be willing to serve as the next FCAP General Director. He indicated he was humbled by this, and said he would be willing to pray about it. He came back to me and affirmed his willingness to serve in this... his name is Jake Joseph. Jake is married to Joana and they have a delightful daughter (age 4) named Jenna. He is a pilot with United Airlines. Because the FCAP Board is solely responsible for appointing/hiring the General Director, they spent time talking with Jake and with his wife Joana about Jake's readiness to serve... both of them were in agreement. Then at our last International Board meeting on December 8, and after a few months of praying, the Board felt it was time to vote on the matter, and they voted in favor of Jake becoming the next FCAP General Director.



Thirty years ago the FCAP founder, Joe Ivey, and the Board of Directors handed the directorship of FCAP over to me. It is now an honor for me, on behalf of the Board, to hand over the directorship to Jake Joseph... our new General Director starting April 1, 2022. I believe he will serve the Lord and FCAP well. And as for me... I am not retiring per se, though I am cutting back. It was agreed upon that I would stay on and work 1 to 2 days a week, to assist and support Jake, as well as work on special projects.

For His Glory,
Paul Curtas

MORE UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS

PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP FOR MEN

Tuesday, March 15 & 29
9:30 am ET

PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

Tuesday, March 8 & 22
9:30 am ET

ENGAGING IN PRAYER (For One Another and Our Industry)

Wednesday, March 9 & 23
9:30 am ET

Sign-information for
our Prayer and Fellowship times on
Zoom:

[LINK for using computer for video](#)
Meeting ID: 7704619320
Password: fcap1234

By phone, dial into meeting for
audio only.
+1 646 876 9923 US
Meeting ID: 7704619320



In need of encouragement and help?

The airline/aviation industry is facing turbulent times currently in so many ways. As a result, an unprecedented number of employees are facing uncertainty and difficult decisions affecting their future. FCAP is here for such a time as this. We are available...

- To [PRAY](#) with and for you.
- To provide [COUNSELING RECOMMENDATIONS](#).
- [BENEVOLENCE ASSISTANCE](#) ... and more.

