IN THE JETSTREAM



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OUR PRIESTLY MISSION

by Paul Curtas



You may be wondering how "Priestly Mission" relates to your work in the airline industry. Is FCAP somehow recruiting the clergy to get involved in the work-culture? Let's take a moment and rethink this term in light of the Bible's definition... then let us consider how it applies to our work-life.

Our Mission

First, let's take the word "mission." When we talk about our mission, it has to do with our being sent out into the world, and what kind of influence we bring to it (John 17:15-20). When we finish meeting together at church, we continue being the church outside its walls, in the residential, business, educational, and market places of the world. There is no special job or title that sends us, rather our mission comes by virtue of the fact that we are God's people, with God's presence, the Holy Spirit in us, bringing His influence to every place we go (1 Thessalonians 1:5-8; 2 Corinthians 2:14).

A Holy and Royal Priesthood

Now, the word "priestly" gives us more details. In Scriptures, a priest was a person who stood between God and people to represent God. Nowadays, we typically think of this as the clergy or one who works in the church. But actually the Apostle Peter applied priestly as a role for all Christians! Interestingly, Peter's first epistle depicts Christians facing opposition from people of the world. It is in this setting (1 Peter 2:5-10) that Peter declares Christians to be a "Holy and Royal Priesthood." So how does this priestly role function in our work-life? God has placed you between Himself and your coworkers and company leaders to represent God to them.

Here are two ways the Apostle Paul describes how our priestly mission functions. The first one is found in 1 Timothy 2:1,

"...I urge you that prayers and thanks be offered on behalf of all people even for kings and all those in authority... such prayer for all is good and welcome before God our Savior." As priests we are encouraged to pray for our coworkers, supervisors, and leaders, and not just for those we like or like us, but also pray for those who don't like us (Matthew 5:44-45). It's not just a formality we follow... it is what we do for them in their needy condition. The second way our priestly mission is portrayed by the Apostle Paul is in how God is making His appeal to people through us (2 Corinthians 5:19-20).

Our priestly mission is more than just prayer, it is also about how God positions us in the middle of co-workers with their struggles and difficulties. In these situations, people can feel desperate or depressed, and it is here we have an opportunity to sow the seeds of the Gospel and show them that God cares through our concern for them (Matthew 9:36-38).

Impact on Others

I have witnessed many times how the work-culture can provide opportunities to exercise our Priestly Mission by praying for people and presenting God's appeal to them. I once was asked to meet with an upper Manager of a sizable US company. He had witnessed a small group of Christians who met weekly for 15 minutes during their break to focus exclusively on praying for employees, company leaders and problems. What impressed him was how the effects of this short meeting touched many lives on all levels, and how it enhanced their work and relationships. I will never forget the manager's comments... "In my 25 years of being in Upper Management I have never witnessed anything like this... Christians showing genuine concern for the company employees and its operation!"

How are you applying your priestly mission in your work-life?

This article was written by Paul Curtas, General Director Emeritus of FCAP. Paul facilitates our "God's Design of Work" seminars, which are based on the book he has authored entitled When God Shows Up At Work.

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



- Are you seeking a deeper understanding of the purpose behind your work?
- Do you long to live for Christ in your work?

Look no further. This exclusive event will equip you with valuable insights and practical guidane on aligning your work with God's design. Immerse yourself in an atmosphere of faith, encouragement, and inspiration. Experience engaging discussions that will fuel your walk with Christ and inspire you to follow Him in your daily work as aviation personnel.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Even if you do not live in the Atlanta area, perhaps you would consider flying in for the day to attend.

Each month during our online FCAP Leaders meetings, we have the blessing of hearing from our local fellowship groups, encouraging one another and praying for one another. In May, our featured group was FCAP-Nairobi, represented online by Victoria Nuru and Moreen.

The group in Nairobi exemplifies so well the heart of FCAP ... most importantly they reflect a sincere heart for the Lord and serving Him among their aviation co-workers (as well as others). Weekly meetings include Bible studies, guest speakers, and quiet times at the alter. Other special meetings occur on a monthly basis, including their prayer meeting, birthday celebrations, testimonies, sharing and encouragement. The group is also faithful to reach out, both physically and spiritually, to those who are ill, bereaving the loss of a loved one, or experiencing some other discouragement or need.



Thank you, FCAP-Nairobi, for so faithfully sharing the Gospel and love of Christ with those God has put in your midst!

Monthly Events:







Sign-in instructions to connect on Zoom for these events:

LINK for using computer for video Meeting ID: 7704619320 Password: fcap1234

For audio only by phone, dial into +1 646 876 9923 US Meeting ID: 7704619320 Password: 358149



