

IN THE JETSTREAM



The Challenge of Discipleship and the Joy of Serving

by Carlos Cruz



FCAP.org

Hello, brothers and sisters. Grace and peace. I hope this message finds you well. Although I am not yet leading a formal FCAP group in Brazil (we are close to our first meeting), I have learned much from your perseverance and enthusiasm. This has encouraged me to keep moving forward, even though I am not regularly immersed in an aviation environment.

I would like to share a brief reflection on our mission to bring the Good News into our workplaces and how Jesus expects us to obey His call (Mark 16:15).

Sharing the Good News

During my years as a Captain, I had many opportunities to share the Gospel with colleagues in the cockpit. Some were receptive, others completely closed. Over time, I learned discernment—when to continue and when to pause. Many had never been exposed to the Word of God beyond superficial religion. Often, I would begin with a question about history, faith, or a personal matter at work or home, which opened doors for deeper conversations about Scripture.

In aviation, crews are highly rational. I see this as an advantage: if we follow manuals like AOM or SOP to maintain safety, how much more should we value the Bible as our life manual? This analogy resonates with pilots. For others, workplace regulations or procedures can also serve as conversation starters.

Challenges are inevitable. Yet, as Paul reminds us, our labor is never in vain in the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58). The desire to win souls is evidence of God's nature in us (Romans 5:5). We love because He first loved us.

Being prepared for responses like "I'm fine the way I am" or "You don't own the truth" is vital. It may feel discouraging, but even such reactions can indicate God is working (Psalm 126:5–6). Remember, our task of sharing Christ is not optional—it is a debt of love (Romans 13:8). We give freely what we have freely received.

The Importance of Prayer

God has entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation. As ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18–20), we need to cover ourselves and our workplaces in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to prepare hearts and soil for seeds to grow. If someone shared Christ with us, we now carry that responsibility.

At times, we may see colleagues accept the Word yet fail to root themselves deeply, continuing in old ways. I recall a First

Officer who initially responded positively but later struggled. After losing her job and facing trials, she eventually surrendered to Christ and is now a Captain in Portugal—a testament to God's faithfulness (Nehemiah 2:12).

We must also remember that spiritual battles are real (Ephesians 6:12). I personally faced persecution from a chief pilot when I openly shared my faith. But God defended me. Paul's words to Timothy echo strongly today: preach the Word in season and out of season (2 Timothy 4:2). In a world preoccupied with self, our message may seem outdated, yet it remains the only true hope.

Engaging our Mission

So how can we engage our colleagues? Start with simple, sincere questions:

- How are you today?
- Do you believe in eternal life?
- Do you read the Bible? Do you understand it? (Acts 8:30)

Speak with conviction. Focus on Christ, not on church traditions (Acts 4:12). And study the Word diligently to handle it rightly (2 Timothy 2:15).

Our personal testimonies also open hearts. I once prayed persistently when my airline planned to shut down its Brazilian branch. After two years of intercession, God reversed the decision, and I was promoted to Captain. That miracle encouraged many others. As Daniel 9 illustrates, God intervenes in human affairs.

Unbelievers and indifference are part of the journey. But we are sowers, and God gives the increase. Others may reap where we sow, yet the reward remains (John 4:36).

Finally, our mission of connecting Christians in workplaces must be rooted in prayer and surrender. Only the Holy Spirit empowers us to **Edify, Engage, Encourage and Excite**. This is the heart of FCAP's mission.

Brothers and sisters, may this reflection inspire you as a reminder of God's great love. I pray we become vessels overflowing with His love, ready to share it confidently with our colleagues.

This article was written by Carlos Cruz. Carlos retired as a Captain from a commercial airline in São Paulo, Brazil. He serves on our FCAP Leadership Team, representing his part of the world. As mentioned in his article, they are hoping to begin a group there very soon and appreciate your prayers in that endeavor.



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



Our Awesome Ministry Team!

This was the fourth year FCAP has been represented at the EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh. Just like previous years, it did not disappoint. Opportunities to share the Lord and the availability of FCAP were abundant. Our mission was accomplished thanks to the many who supported us in prayer and through financial gifts... and thanks to our wonderful team who represented FCAP there. We are also grateful to IAMA and MASA for their support in making this possible for us. Above all, we thank our Heavenly Father and give Him the glory!

In Romans 13:14 we read, "Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ." Our team at Oshkosh did just that. They exhibited Christ's love and character in so many ways ... through extending love and compassion to all with whom they came in contact; through sacrificial and servant hearts; through prayer for one another and others; through their bold witness in how God desires to use us in aviation workplaces and beyond; through joyful countenance; and through perseverance as we navigated inclement weather (including muddy and wet ground), lots of walking and standing, transportation challenges, long days/short nights, etc. Thank you, team (Ann Ashcraft, Tom and Karen Carlin, Edward Church, Elaine Haskins, Barbara James, Jerry Litwiller, Analise Nelson, and Yuko Query) for a job well done! And the same is certainly true for our previous teams, who laid the groundwork and set the example for us. It has been my honor to serve along side of you all in this endeavor for God's glory and the advancement of His kingdom.

Cathy Goza



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In addition, here is a [Spotify link](#) that features a podcast interview with FCAP General Director, Jake Joseph.



August Opportunities

FELLOWSHIP & PRAYER Tuesday 9:30am ET (1330z)

Aug 5: Men's and Women's Breakouts
Aug 12: Engaging in Prayer (everyone included)
Aug 19: Men's and Women's Breakouts
Aug 26: Engaging in Prayer (everyone included)



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



Zoom Link