

In the JetStream

Which Direction is Your Life Going?



WHEN LIFE IS BEING REROUTED ...

Every day there are some passengers that face the unexpected and disappointment of having to be rerouted because of a mechanical or weather delays, and sometimes because crews are being repositioned. Gate agents often face the fury of some of these passengers who feel they have been cheated or deceived. Why? Because they did not expect to be delayed in reaching their destination. Their plans now have to be readjusted, and often they feel like everything is out of their control. Meanwhile gate agents are trying to explain to these people what they see as unacceptable! The atmosphere at the gate can quickly turn from being positive with high expectation to disappointment and anger.

But don't we all face similar challenges when our goals and expectation in life are met with delays and cancellations? Some of these are caused by our own bad choices or delayed ones. And some are caused by the choices of others who either don't know or don't care how it will affect our lives. And then there are the weather problems that people would like to blame someone for, but we simply classify it as an act of God!

The aviation industry operates through a huge mechanism worldwide called ATC (or Air Traffic Control) that coordinates flights on routes or reroutes them. Though it is complex and interconnected, I am sure people at the ATC rarely have time to think about how their work personally can affect individual lives. We are told in the Bible that God oversees the entire traffic system of the universe (Isaiah 46:9-10). Each incident in our lives, our community, our nation, and our world is not a surprise to Him or beyond His control. He tells us that He is orchestrating everything according to His purpose (Romans 8:28-29). But unlike the impersonal ATC system in the aviation world, God is very personal and interested in every detail of our lives. Jesus said that even the hairs of our head are numbered by the Lord (Luke 12:7).

We sometimes think, "If I could take control of life my way, things would go better." But just like a pilot who would endanger himself and all on board if he ignored the ATC, when we take control of our life without God we face greater problems than delays and cancellations. Our life faces the perils of being controlled and even overcome by the elements around us. On the inside we can become trapped by deceit and ensnared by bitterness, anger and even hatred.

Becoming a Christian and daily walking under God's control does not eliminate problems, but it does prevent us from being overcome or feeling we are victimized by them. Jesus said, "*In this world you will have tribulations, but take heart, I have overcome the world*" (John 16:33). In His darkest hour on earth, Jesus Christ trusted His Father's hand in guiding Him through it. We also have a choice when facing the challenges and problems of life. Do we see these situations as opportunities to release control into God's hands, trusting Him to provide or make another way? Do we see through eyes of faith how God know the details of every fiasco, even though we don't? Do we believe that His purposes entail changing us and making us better, so we can help others around us who are stuck in the same situation by encouraging them?

Yes, God will reroute us at times in life. The question is ...what is my response to Him when these changes bring unexpected delays and cancellations to my life?

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

Acknowledging Him in all of life,
The FCAP Staff

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 do not have a membership or dues; rather 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 relationship 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 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. We do not have a membership nor are we a club with dues. Rather, 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:

Locate and seek to connect with other Christians at your workplace. Contact us at our international office for assistance or go to our web site and click on “Your Next Step.”



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

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OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD