



"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

TRiM TAB

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A Preview Of What's To Come

By Paul M. Curtas

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All of us know how the Motion Picture Industry previews their upcoming movies. Either on television, the Internet or on the printed page, they give us a brief preview of the film. Showing a clip or excerpt can capture our interest enough to make us want to go see the movie. In a similar way, God gives the world a preview of His coming kingdom. The glimpse He gives comes in different ways. Sometimes He gives us a glance of His power through a supernatural intervention that changes the course of events. He may do this by reversing the natural course of sickness by bringing healing and restoration. And there are times He may show His power through a natural catastrophe. At times His ways are clearly understandable to us and other times they are not. There are some people who try to lead us to believe that supernatural intervention

telling the religious people that He has come to personally display the power of His kingdom. This power is transforming and will personally change us. The world will see this change as it happens to us! They will see how Christ's power compels us to act in ways that are beyond the ordinary. But they will also see how Christ's rule restrains us at times from becoming captive to ways that bring confusion and bitterness.

The world desperately needs to see the power of Christ's kingdom working in us daily in our workplace, in our homes, and in our leisure times. They need to see how He enables us to live life in a new way. Sadly though, we sometimes substitute this with the thinking that if we build mega structures in society in the name of Christ, people will take note of it. We also try and impress the

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might. (Ephesians 1:18-19)

is the only way the world can get a preview of God's coming kingdom, power, and rule. It certainly is one of His ways, but He has ordained another way that is much more comprehensive. It is a way that displays not only God's ruling power but also His character. We are told that God's children have Christ living in them in the person of the Holy Spirit (Colossians 1:27). The world can have a glimpse of His coming Kingdom as He operates through the individual parts of the body of Christ, His Church (Ephesians 1:19-23).

In His day, Christ was confronted by the religious establishment about the time set for the coming of God's kingdom (Luke 17:20-24). Jesus' answer wasn't exactly what they were wanting. They were asking about how it would happen and wanted to know the date set for when it would happen, just what we often focus on as humans! But Jesus explains that the kingdom is not coming with obvious signs at this time (vs. 20), though it will some day (vs. 24). Rather the kingdom of God has now come in your midst (vs. 21). Interestingly, when Jesus was on earth after demonstrating some of His power, people still missed the point. They were willing to identify with the signs and spectacular things that Christ did but were not willing to personally identify with Him. Jesus is

world with our Christian version of celebrity status and famous people, thinking such success will draw people to God's kingdom rule in their life. The truth is, it doesn't impress people, nor will it draw them to anything different or life changing unless they see how it applies to them personally. The world has enough mega structures and superstars that point to their version of success, and it hasn't changed them for the better.

What will draw attention to God and preview His kingdom power is His extraordinary rule that personally enables us to do things that we naturally wouldn't do. Just to name a few: Praying for those who despitefully use us, going the extra distance by doing more than expected, and showing love to those who do not love us. The powers and authorities of the world cannot reproduce this kind of life. What the ruling power of Christ produces in our lives will practically shock people when they see it. It will provoke them to ask why we do such things.

In FCAP, we love to hear from Christians in the airlines how their lives are motivated by a ruling power greater than any company or personality. When this happens, company incentives are not needed to motivate us to do what is right and do

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This TRiM TAB is a gift to you. Your gift to FCAP helps us to pass this and other publications on to others.



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FCAP Fellowship Interview

Paul Curtas recently interviewed Mike Patrick of the FCAP Wilmington Fellowship. We hope you will be encouraged by this account of ministry in the airline workplace.



Q: Mike, how did the group begin and develop?

A: Our FCAP group started to take root in the spring of 2001. A Christian brother and captain I had been flying with for several years had talked about doing a Bible study at work, but it didn't go anywhere for quite some time. It took the Lord really getting hold of me and changing my heart before I knew that's what He wanted at ABX Air. One night I was flying, thinking and praying about this and it suddenly came to me: I wonder if anyone has started a Christian pilot association or something that could help. It happened that I was flying from Ohio to Florida and was somewhere over Atlanta at that moment, where FCAP is located (though I didn't know it at the time). As soon as I could, I got on the internet to do a search and found FCAP. From that initial conversation with Edward Church, I immediately signed up for the next training session which happened to be Peacemaker Training. From the moment I arrived there until the time I left, I felt such a spiritual connection with not only the leadership of FCAP, but also the others who attended the training. This encouraged me to go back to work, where we started our FCAP fellowship. All it took was one person who knew another Christian, who knew another Christian, and so on. Before I knew it, I had close to 80 people on my email list. We started meeting regularly on Friday mornings at 2:30 am (during our break for the freight sort) for prayer and study. It was so encouraging to have other Christians to be around and pray with when I was far from home.

Q: What were some of your initial challenges and have they been used to form the ministry there?

A: One of the initial challenges I felt strongly called to handle was to approach management to explain who we were as a group, our intentions, and to request permission to use a room for our prayer and study. It helped that one of the chief pilots was a part of the group, but it was a personal challenge to actually go to the vice president of Flight Ops and explain that our group was open to union, management, pilots, or non-pilots. I said that our unity is through Jesus Christ and we are here to serve Him at this job, but rest assured that by serving Him we strive to be the best employees we can be. I also explained that we would be praying for our management/leadership and encouraged him to let me know anytime there were specific things we could pray for. As difficult as this was for me to do, I am convinced that it was the right way to start our group. I didn't want us to be a "secret club" that had to sneak around

to meet. We are called to be salt and light.

The second thing I wanted our group to do was not just to "hide out" in our upper room for our meetings, but to have a positive impact to those around us by meeting specific needs. Our first opportunity was to provide Christmas dinner for the pilots who were stuck in Wilmington (our hub) on Christmas day away from home. Everything shuts down that day, and getting fed was a real need for these pilots. Several in our group pitched in that day and cooked various parts of the meal and brought it into the union hall. We also got several businesses to donate prizes that we gave away in free drawings and had children from our families serve.

Since that initial meeting with management, I have had the chance to talk with upper management, including our CEO, every once in a while about our group's activities and they have expressed appreciation for the things we have done. Trust is built up over time, and once they learned that we weren't some "crazy" group they had to worry about, they worked with us more willingly and eventually let us put a Christian book shelf up in the crew lounge.

Q: Give us an example of some of the things the groups has done over the last five years.

A: In addition to the Christmas dinners, we've been hosting Thanksgiving dinners the last few years (though now the company has been paying for catering, while the location has remained at the union hall). We also did a one year September 11th memorial service where you (Paul Curtas) and a local pastor spoke that included a candlelight service around the flagpole. We've also been given the opportunity twice to have you (Paul Curtas) bring an abbreviated Peacemaker training to the union's pro standards committee, and we have been able to meet some personal and individual needs through prayer and finances.

Q: In what way have God's people been an obvious influence in this airline environment?

A: We have never been an "in your face" type of group. Unfortunately, there are some Christians out there who have given Christ a bad rep by being judgmental and intimidating. When Jesus was among the sinners, he was loving first, and second, He met their needs (He saved His harsh judgments for the Pharisees). So I think it is because we have tried to show love and meet needs that we have been able to have an influence at work. After all, those we work with may never darken the doors of a church and the only Jesus they see may be through us. Therefore, it is so important that we are portraying Christ accurately.

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A Preview Of What's To Come (cont'd from page 1)

it heartily. Such behavior at work practically defies the acceptable and can even upset the normal way of things. Certainly that does not mean that our conduct should be strange or weird, it should not. But neither should it be so predictable that it is really nothing out of the ordinary. We've heard stories like a Captain willing to show his First Officer, who's having a rough day, that he can become a servant to him by offering to do the walk around the plane, even in bad weather. Sounds simple? Yes, but also not ordinary behavior. We have heard about a manager being demoted who was asked to train his replacement, and how the power of Christ enabled him to do this heartily unto the Lord without complaining. You see, any response less is only predictable and what people normally expect.

How about you? Do you see yourself under the ruling power of Jesus Christ? Christ's kingdom rule is not about making you one of His subjects, it is about making you part of His family. When you turn to the Lord in humble faith, and trust in the redemptive work of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, the outcome is transforming! The Bible describes this as being taken out of a ruling kingdom of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of God's Son (Colossian 1:13-14).

In the future, Christ will return and set up His universal kingdom and abolish all human rule, authority, and power (1 Corinthians 15:23-24). At that time He will bring justice upon the earth and every knee will bow and every tongue will confess Him to be Lord (Philippians 2:9-11). In the meantime, we are told that the nations rage (Psalm 2), not just against one another as we see happening in our world, but against God himself. At this time the Lord is withholding a full showing of His kingdom power. In essence, He is previewing it through the lives of His people and making an appeal to the world to be reconciled to God.

Are you simply waiting for his kingdom to come, or maybe just telling people that it is yet to come? Our daily lives should be like a preview of what's to come and it should give the world a glimpse of the ruling power of Christ.

FCAP Fellowship Interview (cont'd from page 2)

Q: How would you encourage others who go to work and are not sure if they can make a difference in their airline spiritually?

A: First, I would encourage them not to get discouraged because it takes a lot of little things and moments to really make a difference. If you are living for Christ and staying accountable with other believers at your work, praying for those around you, and looking for needs that you can help meet, all of those things will add up and impact those around you. Think about it this way: If you were to go door to door witnessing in a neighborhood across town, how many would know or trust you enough to listen? What if you moved into that neighborhood and lived for Christ by showing love and compassion to those around you? This is exactly what God has called us to do in the workplace.



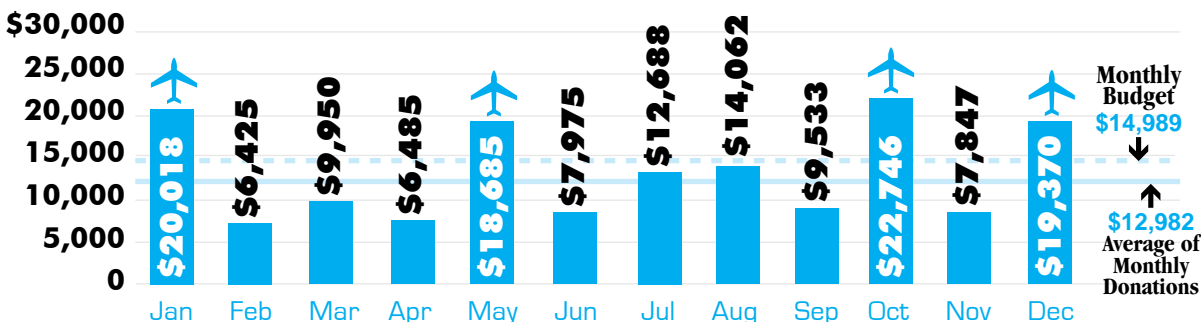
IDAHO Whitewater ADVENTURE ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Friday, June 27, 2008 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Just a short drive from Boise. Sponsored by FCAP-Boise. More activities available in addition to whitewater rafting.

Contact Warren Milanowski at (208) 371-8569 or fcapboi@cablone.net.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Year-to-Date 2007



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NEWS REEL



FCAP NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

✦ **FCAP Allentown** – Under the leadership of Jerry Litwiller, CO Captain and FCAP Board member, the Allentown FCAP meets quarterly for a breakfast meeting. The group is made up of pilots who commute to Newark, airport personnel, and a few from the FAA. Claudette and Paul Curtas were able to attend the meeting on December 3, 2007 and Paul was the speaker. There were around 22 present at the meeting. The group stays connected throughout the year through prayer and personal contact.



✦ **FCAP Peacemaker Training** – On November 6-7, Peacemaker Training was held at the Hearth House in Rollingbrook, the retreat area where the FCAP International office is located. At this training there were seven in attendance from four different areas in the U.S. representing four airlines. In addition to Paul Curtas, FCAP General Director, there were several others who instructed including Delta Flight Attendant Liz Reardon who shared some practical principles and her experiences in being a peacemaker while on the job. This two-day training is held one or twice a year. Everyone who attends shares that it impacts their interaction with others on the job. Plan to attend Peacemaker Training in 2008.



✦ **FCAP Philippines Anniversary** - In September, FCAP in Lufthansa Technik Philippines (LTP) celebrated its seventh year of existence. The FCAP International Office received the following report from Tess Tecadena: "If we count the time during and from PAL, our fellowship is already 21 yrs old! LTP is formerly the Maintenance and Engineering Department of Philippine Airlines (PAL). With the theme 'Enlarging God's Territory and Finding the Lost,' the celebration and thanksgiving was held at the Employees Council office during noonbreak of Thursdays. The program started by congregational singing as led by a sister in the Lord from our Aircraft Overhaul Department. On September 6, we recalled when, where, how and who were behind the establishment of FCAP-LTP with thanksgiving prayer. Also on this day, the Lord reminded us to focus on the FCAP mission, vision and purpose. On September 13, a group of Christians from our Finance Department led us in praise and worship, followed by exhortation from the Word by a brother from our Quality Management Department. On September 20, a video consisting of past activities and gathering of Christians here at LTP was shown followed by a simple snack. On September 27, FCAP Philippines gave token and certificate of appreciation to the leadership of FCAP-LTP, followed by a preaching on 'commitment' and ended with a dedication prayer. We at FCAP-LTP, would like to thank the Lord for His faithfulness and love to us. Praise His Holy Name!"

✦ **FCAP Philippines Leadership Training** - FCAP Philippines conducted its first Leadership Training on October 13, 20, and 27, 2007. The sessions were held at the FCAP office in Paranaque City, Philippines. The training was attended by eleven Christians coming from four different aviation organizations. The sessions were as follows: First session - Intimacy with God; Second session - Evangelism; Third Session - Biblical Principles of Leadership. Each session lasted for four hours. Pastora Evelyn Guimalan of the Jesus New Covenant International Ministry (JNCIM) and one of the Trustees of FCAP Philippines was the speaker and resource person. After the last session all participants received their training certificate. Likewise, FCAP Philippines gave the speaker a certificate of appreciation for conducting the training. We are thankful for the leadership of FCAP Philippines and their continued ministry in the airline workplace.



✦ **FCAP Wilmington** – Over 200 were in attendance for the annual Thanksgiving day dinner hosted by the ABX FCAP fellowship. This year the Astar FCAP fellowship co-sponsored the event. Mike Patrick



reports, "Many thanks especially to Astar FCAP leaders Carl Kruger and Mark Christenson for their help and coordination. Represented pilot groups served this year included ABX Air, Astar, and Kitty Hawk. Catering was supplied by Squeels on Wheels and paid for and/or supported by ABX Air, ALPA Council 17, and Teamster local 1224. It was really great to see all the pilot groups getting along in the spirit of Thanksgiving and it was also wonderful to work with our brothers from the Astar FCAP group."

★**FCAP VIP Luncheon** – The FCAP International Office hosts an annual luncheon to show appreciation to the local people who come and labor in the FCAP International office throughout the year. They are called VIPs (Volunteer In Practice). There were 32 in attendance for the luncheon on December 6, 2007. Some of the VIPs have been helping in the ministry of FCAP for over 30 years. In addition to the meal, Christmas songs were sung and classical guitarist Wayne Chasteen, husband of Landra, FCAP Publications Coordinator, played a classical medley of Christmas music. Ministry founder Joe Ivey shared some thoughts from God's word and General Director Paul Curtas along with the staff expressed gratitude to God and to those present. We only wish we could have a giant luncheon for all who labor in this ministry in their workplace every day. We are thankful for each of you!



This section of the TRIM TAB gives updates on FCAP news items. Please submit reports and photos from your local FCAP fellowship. We love to hear from you and it is an encouragement to FCAPers worldwide.



Upcoming Events

BASIC TRAINING

March 11-12, 2008 and August 19-20, 2008

Location: Hearth House (near the FCAP International Office) in Fayetteville, Georgia

FCAP Basic Training is a time set aside for Christians in the airline industry to focus on what it means to be a Christian in the workplace and how we can have a ministry there. We also encourage airline retirees to come be a part of this training session as there are numerous opportunities for them to have continued outreach and ministry in the airline community.

For more information or to register, please contact the FCAP International Office at (770) 461-9320 or e-mail us at office@fcap.org. Registration information is also available on our web site at www.fcap.org.

PEACEMAKER TRAINING

Two-day seminar on what it means to be a peacemaker in a turbulent world.

November 11-12, 2008

Location: Hearth House in Fayetteville, Georgia

Instructors for the seminar: FCAP General Director Paul Curtas, Delta Mechanic Scott Bowman, Dr. Howard Dial, Southwest Pilot Mike Hembrough and Delta Flight Attendant Liz Reardon.

Cost: \$35 which includes overnight lodging and meals, plus your workbook.

(Cost for commuters is \$25.)

Contact the FCAP International Office for more information and to register:
Phone: (770) 461-9320 E-mail: office@fcap.org Web Site: www.fcap.org

LAST MINUTE:
FCAP Cruise during the first week of August 2008. Details will be forthcoming in the next TRIM TAB and at www.fcap.org. Interested? Reserve these dates!

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Additional events are under consideration. Look for details in future publications and on our web site at www.fcap.org.



FOR YOUR CALENDAR: To Plan & Pray

- ✦ **Basic Training (Atlanta)** — March 11-12, 2008
- ✦ **Idaho Whitewater Adventure** — June 27, 2008
- ✦ **Basic Training (Atlanta)** — August 19-20, 2008
- ✦ **Leadership Summit:** Board Only — September 15-16, 2008
Board and Council — September 16-17, 2008
- ✦ **Peacemaker Training (Atlanta)** — November 11-12, 2008

Please check our web site regularly for updates as additional events are currently under consideration.

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What is FCAP?

FCAP is a fellowship among Christians in the airline industry worldwide that share a common commitment and focus. We desire to display our relationship with the Lord in the details of our work in order to bring a unique influence to the people around us at work. Through local groups, prayer fellowships, training seminars, special events, and conferences, we come together to encourage and support one another in this commitment.

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