

How much of your daily life matters to God? Obviously time spent reading your Bible and praying does. And God undoubtedly takes an interest in your Wednesday night Bible study and church on Sunday morning. But what about the rest? The ordinary, everyday, nitty gritty of life – paying the bills, commuting to work, dealing with clients, securing the deal – how do they feature in God’s plans and purposes? They’re not part of the main game, the “frontlines” of His work in the world...or are they?

Fruitfulness on the frontline: Making a difference where you are is by Mark Greene (Executive Director of the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity). He puts forward that those seemingly ordinary, everyday, nitty gritty aspects of life matter incredibly to God, that they are the “frontlines” where we live out the Christian faith, they are the “frontlines” where God is fulfilling His plans and purposes for the world.

Mark Greene begins by seeking to broaden our understanding of Christian fruitfulness. “Vast numbers of Christians don’t believe that they are being fruitful for God, because fruitfulness has been narrowly defined as evangelism” (p. 31). He goes on to explain that fruit in the Bible is a metaphor for all right living which honours God and brings glory to Him.

Mark Greene goes on to outline six key ways – six Ms – of living the fruitful life in our ordinary, everyday frontlines of the home, the neighbourhood, the gym, the supermarket, and perhaps most importantly for us here, the workplace. Modelling godly character, making good work, ministering grace and love, moulding culture, being a mouthpiece for truth and justice, being a messenger of the gospel – this is what fruitful living looks like.

The questions for reflection at the end of each chapter are very helpful, and this book could easily be read by a homegroup, as well as individuals.

If you’re looking for a weighty theological treatise outlining the Biblical teaching on topics such as justice, mercy, fruitfulness and mission you won’t find it in Frontlines. But if you’re looking for incredibly practical teaching on everyday Christian living, peppered with real stories of real people trying to honour God in every aspect of their daily lives then this is the book for you.

<https://youtu.be/lukGGNx4j-w>