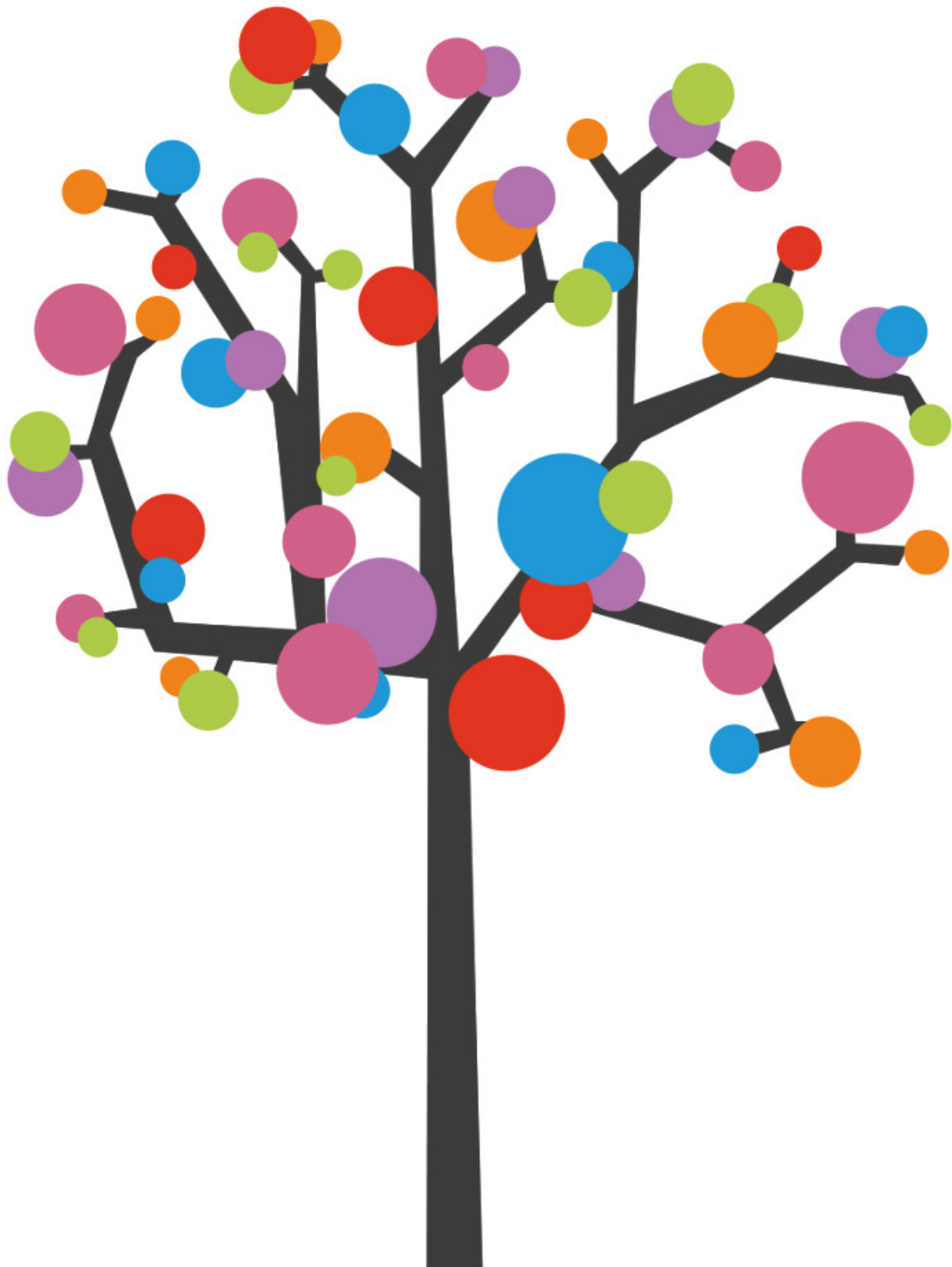
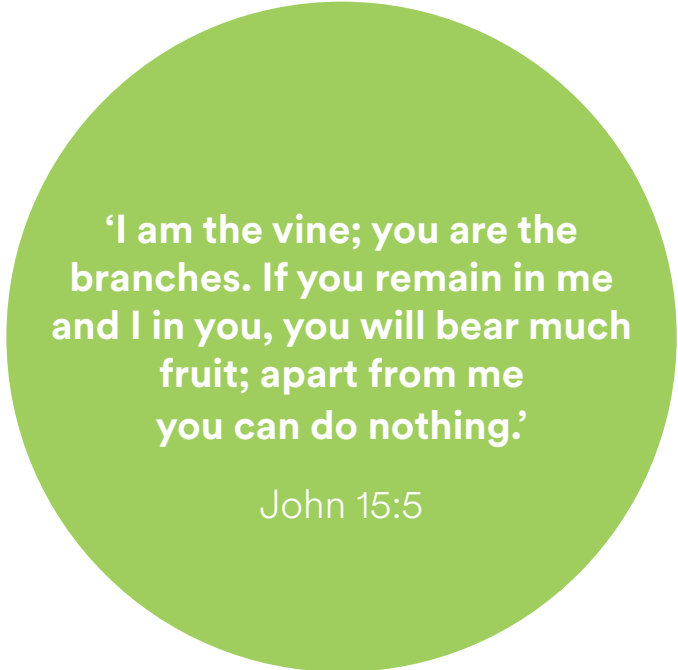


The 6M^{ỐT}T

A tool to help you grow in fruitfulness on your frontline





'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'

John 15:5

Introduction

Use this worksheet on your own or in a small group to explore how God has been working in and through you in recent months.

If you own a car and it's more than two years old, you're used to having an MOT test every year to make sure that the main things are working well. Similarly, it can be really helpful to step back from time to time and ask God how we are doing in our everyday mission out in his world.

Every day is an opportunity to serve God through the things we do and the way we do them, the things we say and how we say them, the prayers we pray, the gratitude and praise we express to God. However, over the years, we at LICC have noticed that most Christians get to the end of an average day and don't think they've done much for God or been fruitful in any particular way. But in reality, they've often been much more fruitful, and in many more ways, than they think.

After all, fruitfulness for Christ is not limited to the things we often first think of: volunteering in church, having evangelistic conversations, or getting involved directly with people in need. All of those things can be examples of fruitfulness in Christ, but biblically, fruitfulness expresses itself in a whole range of ways.

The 6Ms

The 6M framework is designed to help you identify the ways *you* are being fruitful for Christ, as well as giving you fresh vision for how you might be fruitful for him in the future. This session gives you the opportunity to reflect on what God has been doing, and to wonder in what areas he might be calling you to grow in the coming months or year.

For those hearing of the 6Ms for the first time, or who would appreciate a reminder, we'll start with a quick description of each M on the following page. Take a few moments to read through these silently, or together.

Modelling godly character

Wherever you might be and whatever you might be doing, you have opportunities to display the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control). This might mean keeping your perspective when everyone else in your team is having a meltdown; being patient with a difficult child; or consistently speaking respectfully about other people, whoever they are.

M1

Making good work

During a typical week, we all have work to do, whether paid or unpaid. There are emails to write, packages to deliver, patients to examine, hamster cages to clean... Whatever tasks we're doing, we seek to do them in a way that reflects our God; our God who creates order, generates provision, brings joy, creates beauty, and releases potential.

M2

Ministering grace and love

Just as we have received grace and love from God, we in turn show grace and love to those around us – whether we think they deserve it or not. This might mean staying behind to help a colleague at work; asking a fellow parent at the school gate (who's clearly struggling) if they want to meet up for a coffee; or putting out your neighbours' bins when they're on holiday.

M3

Moulding culture

Every organisation, every team, every friendship group has a culture: a 'way we do things around here'. Some of it will be positive, some of it will be neutral - but some of it might be less good, or even toxic. Moulding culture is about strengthening the things that are good and seeking kingdom ways to overcome the bad. This might mean not joining in a whinge culture; helping people at your gym discover the joy of focusing on others rather than themselves through some kind of fundraiser; or tweaking the way meetings happen to ensure those who don't normally have a voice get a fair hearing.

M4

Being a Mouthpiece for truth and justice

This can be as simple as snuffing out gossip, but it can also involve making sure a colleague doesn't get the blame for something they didn't do, changing a grading system that's unfair, or modifying a proposed policy that might disproportionately affect the vulnerable. In such situations, we might wisely and courageously say something that challenges the lie or the injustice, with the intention of making things better for others.

M5

Being a Messenger of the gospel

In the other five Ms, we are living and speaking out the values of God's kingdom; being signposts to his good ways. Then sometimes there are opportunities to directly and plainly share with people 'the reason for the hope that you have' (1 Peter 3:15). If we are seeking to live out the other five Ms, people are more likely to ask us questions about our faith, and the answers we give are likely to be more compelling if we are living a life that backs up what we say.

M6

Looking back

YOUR FRONTLINE

A frontline is a place or activity where you regularly connect with people who are not Christians. It might be a workplace, a place of study, a shop, a club you belong to, the school gate you visit five days a week - or somewhere else.

1. What is your main frontline?

2. Who are the main people you connect with there?



M BY M: QUICK CHECK

- As you think about your frontline, indicate in the table below where you think you're at in each area.

The aim here is not to inflate our egos, nor to beat ourselves up; it's just an opportunity to recognise what's happening in our day-to-day lives.

Use this scale:

I see this often
 I see this sometimes
 I struggle to see this
 I've not thought much about this

1	Modelling godly character	
2	Making good work	
3	Ministering grace and love	
4	Moulding culture	
5	Being a Mouthpiece for truth and justice	
6	Being a Messenger of the gospel	



THE PAST SIX MONTHS

- Over the past six months, what do you think are the main things God has been doing on your frontline?

- Over the past six months, what have been the main things God has been teaching you on your frontline?

Jot down anything specific that's happened relating to one or more of the Ms that you want to note, share, or celebrate.

1. Modelling godly character
2. Making good work
3. Ministering grace and love
4. Moulding culture
5. Being a Mouthpiece for truth and justice
6. Being a Messenger of the gospel

Looking forward

THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

- Are there any particular tasks or projects you need God's help with?

- Are there any particular people God is putting on your heart?

Do you have any particular hopes for the next six months? Jot down your hopes, but don't feel you have to put something in every box.

1. Modelling godly character
Examples: To grow in a particular character quality
2. Making good work
Example: To contribute to a particular piece of work or activity
3. Ministering grace and love
Example: To develop a deeper relationship with a particular person or minister to someone in particular
4. Moulding culture
Example: To see something change in the culture
5. Being a Mouthpiece for truth and justice
Example: To seek to change some unjust practice or counter some lie
6. Being a Messenger of the gospel
Example: To witness to Christ to a particular person

Praying for fruitfulness

If you're doing this exercise on your own, offer specific prayers to the Lord about the hopes you wrote down on the previous page. Consider sharing your hopes with a friend as well.

If you're doing this exercise with others in a small group, share your hopes with one another or in pairs, and pray them through together. You can use the prayer below to close.

As you seek God's help in empowering you, guiding you, and shaping you to be ever more fruitful for him on your frontline, remember too that our fruitfulness comes from him, and that he wants us to be fruitful for him.

A CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, on my frontline,
with the support of my brothers and sisters in Christ,
help me:
Model godly character,
Make good work,
Minister grace and love,
Mould the culture,
be a Mouthpiece for truth and justice,
and be a Messenger for the Gospel,
for the shalom of the places we serve,
the healing of our nation,
and the blessing and salvation of many,
to the praise of your mighty name, and for your glory.

'If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.'

John 15:7-8

More resources on fruitfulness and the 6Ms

Fruitfulness on the Frontline by Mark Greene

A fun, compelling book that explores the 6Ms in greater depth, including lots of biblical and contemporary examples.

Fruitfulness on the Frontline 40-Day Prayer Journey

Short, punchy prayers pinged to your email box to help you grow in fruitfulness.

Fruitfulness on the Frontline small group course

Combining biblical teaching and inspiring real-life stories, these eight video-based sessions are a wonderful way to help one another grow in fruitfulness right where you are.

6M People

A series of inspiring short films following ordinary Christians living out the 6Ms in daily life – as a minicab driver, a bridalwear designer, a full-time mum, and more. Get inspired to ask what small (or big!) things God could be doing through you.

Commissioning Services

Following the tradition of commissioning people for church-based ministry and overseas mission, this is a simple liturgy for commissioning one another for frontline ministry, using the 6Ms.

Find all these and more at licc.org.uk/FOFL

