



**SUSSEX  
GOSPEL  
PARTNERSHIP**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021



Everyday Faith,  
Everyday Fruitfulness

# Equipping for Bible-Centred Ministry

## Sussex Ministry Training Course (SMTC)

Tuesdays (10am to 4.15pm) in term time in Cuckfield, near Haywards Heath. A one-year course with the option of a second year.

## Saturday Morning Bible Training Course (SMBTC)

Monthly on Saturday mornings over two years. This course covers the core elements of SMTC year 1. Those who complete the course may choose to apply for SMTC year 2. Venue for the next course to be confirmed.

Courses start in September and application forms will be available from Easter 2022.

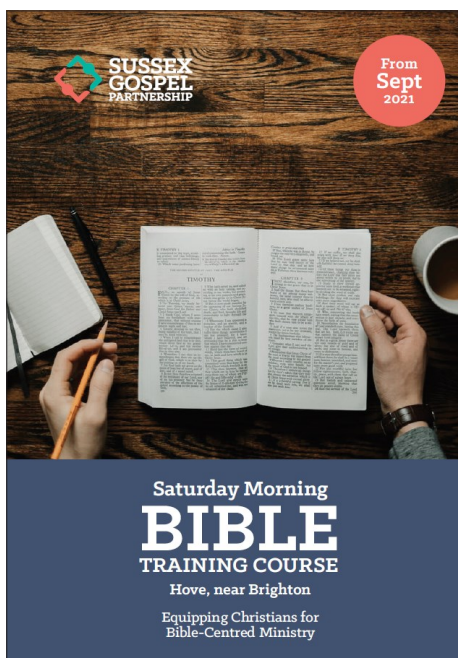
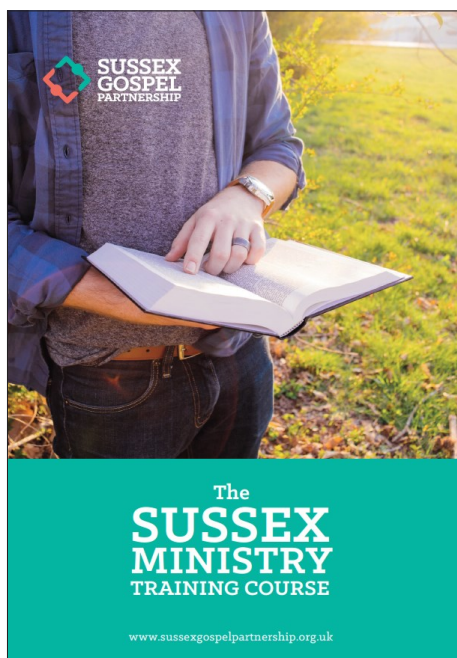
For more information about the training courses, including a video and brochures which can be downloaded, please visit:

[sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/ministries/training-courses/](https://sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/ministries/training-courses/)

or contact Wendy Sands, SGP Administrator:

01444 458 635 / [admin@sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk](mailto:admin@sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk)

Usual office hours: Tuesday mornings and Wednesdays



# PROGRAMME

## Session 1 (10 to 11:20am)

*Mark Greene*

*Everyday Faith, Everyday Fruitfulness -  
Reading the Bible with Whole-Life Lenses*

## Refreshment break

## Session 2 (12 to 1pm)

*Mark Greene*

*Everyday Faith, Everyday Fruitfulness -  
Reading our Whole Lives through Biblical Lenses*

## Lunch

## Seminars (2 to 2:55pm)

## Session 3 (2:55 to 3:30pm)



We are very pleased to welcome **Mark Greene** as our main speaker today.

Mark was Executive Director of the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity for over 20 years, leading a movement that's reached hundreds of thousands of Christians with the message of whole-life discipleship. He's now focussing on writing and speaking, as the LICC's Mission Champion. Mark is the author of the modern classic *Thank God It's Monday* and the ever-popular *Fruitfulness on the Frontline*. Before joining LICC he was Vice-Principal at the London School of Theology, and prior to that spent a decade in advertising in London and New York.

## SESSION 1

Acts 27:8–44 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> We moved along the coast with difficulty and came to a place called Fair Havens, near the town of Lasea.

<sup>9</sup> Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after the Day of Atonement. So Paul warned them, <sup>10</sup> ‘Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also.’ <sup>11</sup> But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship. <sup>12</sup> Since the harbour was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there. This was a harbour in Crete, facing both south-west and north-west.

<sup>13</sup> When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. <sup>14</sup> Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the ‘North-Easter’, swept down from the island. <sup>15</sup> The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along.

<sup>16</sup> As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure, <sup>17</sup> so the men hoisted it aboard. Then they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sand-bars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. <sup>18</sup> We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. <sup>19</sup> On the third day, they threw the ship’s tackle overboard with their own hands. <sup>20</sup> When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

<sup>21</sup> After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: ‘Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. <sup>22</sup> But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. <sup>23</sup> Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me <sup>24</sup> and said, “Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.” <sup>25</sup> So



keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. <sup>26</sup> Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island.'

<sup>27</sup> On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. <sup>28</sup> They took soundings and found that the water was forty metres deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was thirty metres deep. <sup>29</sup> Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. <sup>30</sup> In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. <sup>31</sup> Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, 'Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.' <sup>32</sup> So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.

<sup>33</sup> Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. 'For the last fourteen days,' he said, 'you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food – you haven't eaten anything. <sup>34</sup> Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head.' <sup>35</sup> After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. <sup>36</sup> They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. <sup>37</sup> Altogether there were 276 of us on board. <sup>38</sup> When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

<sup>39</sup> When daylight came, they did not recognise the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. <sup>40</sup> Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. <sup>41</sup> But the ship struck a sand-bar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

<sup>42</sup> The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. <sup>43</sup> But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. <sup>44</sup> The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

## SESSION 1: **Everyday Faith, Everyday Fruitfulness - Reading the Bible with Whole-Life Lenses**

### FIRST THOUGHTS

- Confessions of an adman
- The 98/95 & LICC
- Reading biblical narratives



*“There is not a single inch of human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign of all, does not proclaim, “Mine!””*  
Abraham Kuyper

### ACTS 27: THE SCOPE OF OUR EVERYDAY MINISTRY

- Paul and the boat he’s in
- Right where you are?
- A warning ignored and our response
- The scope of God’s concern: Genesis 1&2, Jeremiah 29:7, Colossians 1:15–20
- The scope of Paul’s ministry
  - ⇒
  - ⇒
  - ⇒
  - ⇒
  - ⇒

### THE SCOPE OF GOD’S EVERYDAY SUPPORT

### PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

## Sources and Resources for the Frontline

There are lots of resources on whole-life discipleship on the LICC website ([licc.org.uk](http://licc.org.uk)) including recommended books, links, Bible studies, sermons, and short films. You can also sign up for our weekly emails, 'Word for the Week' and 'Connecting with Culture', for our 40-day prayer journeys, or for our quarterly postal mailing which includes a new resource two or three times a year. The resources below can be ordered online, by phone, or by email from LICC - and some are on the Books Alive bookstall today, at discounted prices!

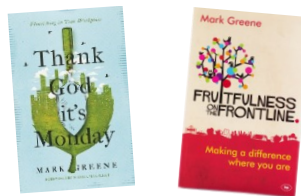
### FOR INDIVIDUALS

*Thank God It's Monday*, Mark Greene

*Fruitfulness on the Frontline*, Mark Greene

*Whole Life Whole Bible*, Antony Billington

*Every Good Endeavour*, Tim Keller



### FOR GROUPS

*Fruitfulness on the Frontline*, 8-part group DVD resource, Mark Greene

*The Whole of Life for Christ*, Antony Billington & Mark Greene

*Launched and Routed*, giving students a vision for whole-life discipleship and work at and after university

*The Gateway Seven Series*, Bible studies on Exodus, Ruth, Proverbs, Ezekiel, Mark, 1 Peter, and Revelation; series editor Tracy Cotterell – a whole-life approach to reading and applying the Bible for each major type of biblical literature

*Transforming Work*, 8 sessions over a year for Christians in the workplace



#### *The One About...Vol.1&2*

In these two collections of true stories, Mark Greene offers us a window into the rich, varied, and sometimes surprising ways God works in our everyday lives – a great way to help you think about what Monday-to-Sunday discipleship might look like. Find supporting resources and share your own story at [licc.org.uk/theoneabout](http://licc.org.uk/theoneabout)

### ONLINE RESOURCES

LICC Vision Film: [licc.org.uk/about](http://licc.org.uk/about)

Boaz: The Whole-Life Disciple at Work – Ruth 2: [licc.org.uk/boaz](http://licc.org.uk/boaz)

We Seek Your Kingdom – a whole-life worship song: [licc.org.uk/wsyk](http://licc.org.uk/wsyk)

### EVENTS

**Emerging Leaders – begins January 2022**

A course for young adults taking on their first workplace leadership roles, equipping them to make a difference for God in and through their jobs.

**Executive Toolbox – begins April 2022**

Designed for women and men in mid- to senior-level executive roles, Executive Toolbox is structured around three modules over six months, and will inspire, equip and support you towards greater influence and impact, whatever your sector.

See more and book online at [licc.org.uk/events](http://licc.org.uk/events)

## SESSION 2: **Everyday Faith, Everyday Fruitfulness - Reading our Whole Lives through Biblical Lenses**

### 1) FRUITFUL ON THE FRONTLINE?

- Good hair day
- A tale of ten Scots – only 3 ways to be fruitful?
- Curt: a case study
  - \* What struck you?
  - \* What might you have said to Curt?
- Not seeing and seeing

*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

### 2) THE 6M FRAMEWORK

- M1 – Modelling godly character. And you?
- M2 – Making good work. And you?
- M3 – Ministering grace and love. And you?
- M4 – Moulding culture. And you?
- M5 – Being a Mouthpiece for truth and justice. And you?
- M6 – Being a Messenger of the Gospel. And you?

What does that look like for a \_\_\_\_\_?

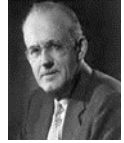


The 6Ms in Acts 27?

*'God is first. That's the breath of life. For me, that's why I'm here. I've been blessed with these abilities. I believe it's not what you're given, it's what you do with what you have. I learnt that from the Bible. What are you going to do with what you have? Everybody has gifts to give. Who did you lift today? Who did you make better today?'*  
Denzel Washington

### 3) WHY MY EVERYDAY WORK/ACTIVITY MATTERS TO GOD

- Whatever we do... Colossians 3:23–24
- Learning from the worker God: Genesis 1, 2:15
- Creating a context for human flourishing
- Five aspects of God's work:
  - \* Creates order
  - \* Creates provision
  - \* Creates joy
  - \* Creates beauty
  - \* Releases potential
- How does your daily work/activity bring...?
  - \* Order
  - \* Provision
  - \* Joy
  - \* Beauty
  - \* Release of potential



*'If you cannot worship the Lord in the midst of your responsibilities on Monday, it's not very likely that you were worshipping on Sunday.'*  
AW Tozer

### 4) THE WHOLE-LIFE GOSPEL AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN OUR TIME

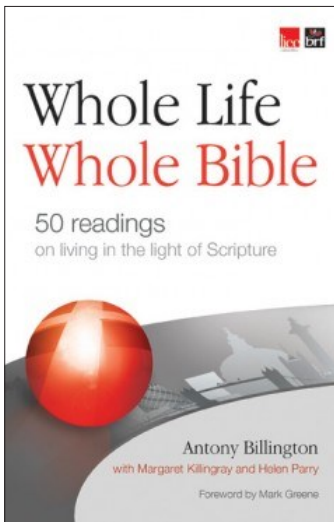
- What Sayers saw?

*'But is it astonishing? How can anyone remain interested in a religion which seems to have no concern with nine-tenths of his life?'*

Dorothy L Sayers



# SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON THE BOOKS ALIVE STALL TODAY!



## Whole Life Whole Bible

*Antony Billington with Margaret Killingray and Helen Parry*

RRP: £7.99 **£6.00**

This 50-day reading plan walks you through the story of the whole Bible, and helps you reflect on how it shapes your whole life. The bite-size readings and real-life application questions help illuminate God's plan to renew all areas of life. Whole-life discipleship is rooted in whole-Bible discipleship, shaped by our place in God's unfolding story for us and for the world in which we live.

## Fruitfulness on the Frontline Pack:

**Book + DVD + Discussion Guide**

*Mark Greene*

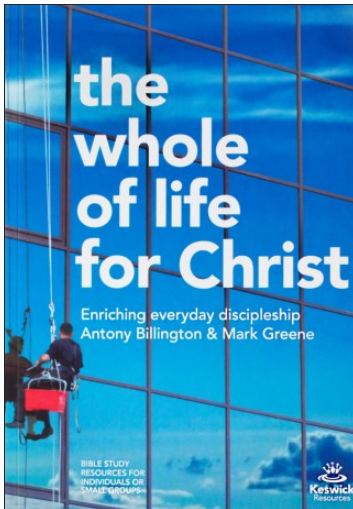
RRP: £21.99 **£8.00**

In this horizon-expanding, spirit-lifting book, Mark Greene serves up a liberating view of how God can and does work through us in our daily lives. Whether you are a student or retired, at the gym or at work, at the school gate or in the supermarket, here is a fresh framework for being a fruitful follower of Jesus on your frontline.



And today, with this special offer, as well as the book you also get the DVD and discussion guide - **all for £8!**





## The Whole of Life for Christ

Antony Billington & Mark Greene

RRP: £4.99 **£4.00**

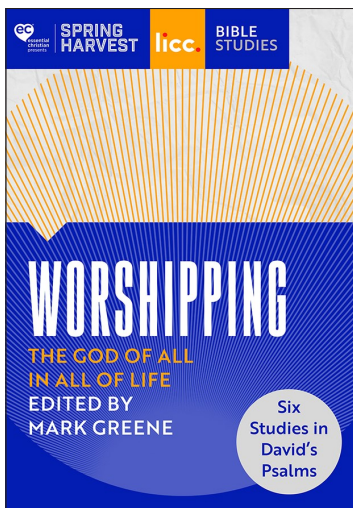
Seven Bible studies to explore and live out the marvellous truth that the gospel is an invitation into whole-life discipleship, into a life following and imitating Jesus.

## Thank God it's Monday

Mark Greene

RRP: £6.99 **£4.00**

Fun, fast, and full of stories, this book looks at how we can make the most of our time at work, helping us to see our jobs as God does.



## Worshipping the God of All in All of Life

Edited by Mark Greene

RRP: £4.99 **£4.00**

Six studies in David's Psalms to help you appreciate the God of all in fresh ways, and bring your whole life to him in grateful worship.

## **SEMINAR A, with Mark Greene**

### **Word and Witness on our everyday Frontlines**

#### **1) FIRST THOUGHTS**

- Learning from Joy (aged 7)
- Every frontline is a foreign country
- Three safe assumptions
- A liberating truth: Acts 1:8

#### **2) AN EVERYDAY FRAMEWORK FOR A LIFETIME OF WORD AND WITNESS**

- A relational pathway – growing in trust
- A knowledge pathway – growing in understanding
- A skills pathway – growing in know-how

#### **3) KNOWING YOUR MODE**

#### **4) SOMEONE ON GOD'S HEART FOR YOU?**

**DEVELOPING INTENTIONAL STEPS** (see pages 14 and 15)

#### **5) EVANGELISM AS A PROCESS**

## 6) BUILDING TRUST

- Celebrate the person
- Serve the person
- Ask a question that crosses the line

## 7) A TIME TO SPEAK

- Natural 'whole-you' chit-chat
- Bringing gospel perspectives to conversation
  - \* General issues
  - \* Personal issues
  - \* Frontline/work issues
- Testifying to Jesus' contribution
- Giving a reason for your trust in the gospel of Jesus

## 8) UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO YOUR CONTEXT

- Known opportunities
- Anticipated opportunities

### **Skills and knowledge pathways:**

- Could I share personal testimonies?
- Could I share how Jesus helps me in my everyday life?
- Could I share the gospel?
- What questions might faze me?
- What cultural knowledge might I need?



## Intentional Steps



### *A practical way to think about everyday evangelism*

Take some time to ask God which particular person he might be laying on your heart at this time. Once someone has come to heart/mind, use the questions to think, talk, and pray about how things are now and what God might be leading you to do next...

#### A. THE STATE OF PLAY

- 1) How would you describe this person?
- 2) What do you think is important to them?
- 3) What do you think they believe about God?
- 4) What is your relationship with them like?

#### B. MOVING FORWARD – RELATIONAL PATHWAYS

- 5) How could you get to know this person better?
- 6) What conversations have you already had that you could build on?
- 7) What could you do to celebrate, serve, bless this person practically?
- 8) What general issues might be of interest to them right now?
- 9) What personal issues are they concerned about right now?
- 10) What frontline/work issues are they concerned about right now?
- 11) What opportunities do you see coming up to engage in some way?
- 12) What might you do to celebrate, serve, bless, connect to this person before Christmas?
- 13) Who might you ask to pray for this person over the next two months?
- 14) What do you think God wants you to do next?
- 15) One thing I will commit to doing next \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MISSIONAL PATHWAYS ON YOUR FRONTLINE

	Where are you now?	Next steps?	Where in 2 years?
Relational Pathway			
Knowledge Pathway			
Skills Pathway			

## **SEMINAR B, with Paul Lambert**

### **Discipling One Another for our Frontlines**

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup>So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup>until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

#### **FOUR WAYS WE CAN BE EQUIPPED FOR OUR FRONTLINES**

- 1)     Storytelling and testimonies
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2)     Spiritual friendship
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3)     Spiritual practices
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4)     Sticking Points: identifying boundaries and limits



## **SEMINAR C, with Steve Rouse**

### **Changing Frontlines - Continuing Fruitfulness in Retirement**

**Psalm 92:12-15 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup>The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; <sup>13</sup>planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. <sup>14</sup>They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, <sup>15</sup>proclaiming, 'The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.'

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: <sup>2</sup>a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, <sup>3</sup>a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, <sup>4</sup>a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, <sup>5</sup>a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, <sup>6</sup>a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, <sup>7</sup>a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, <sup>8</sup>a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. <sup>9</sup>What do workers gain from their toil? <sup>10</sup>I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. <sup>11</sup>He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LIVE FRUITFULLY AS A DISCIPLE IN YOUR RETIREMENT YEARS?

- IDENTITY: Now that I'm retired, who am I?
- PURPOSE: Now that I'm retired, what do I do?
- FRONTLINE: Now that I'm retired, where am I?
- My Retirement Discipleship Plan

**The Sussex Gospel Partnership**  
*working together for a growing gospel  
church in every Sussex community*

**SGP contact details:**

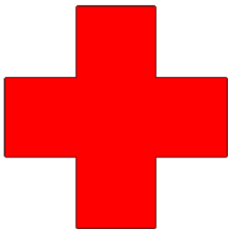
Mrs Wendy Sands  
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Usual office hours: Tuesday mornings and Wednesdays

[www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk](http://www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk)



## **FIRST AID**

First Aid Cover is being provided by  
Sarah MacLennan today.

**If you need help, please go to the  
Reception Desk in the Foyer and ask  
for Ian MacLennan or Wendy Sands  
who will contact Sarah.**

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

*Crèche/Imagine* (Babies & Preschoolers) drop-off and pick-up: SOFT PLAY & LOUNGE

*Inspire* (School Yrs Reception to Year 5) drop-off and pick-up: BOLNORE ROOM

*Ignite* (School Yrs 6 to 11) drop-off: LINDFIELD ROOM (upstairs); pick-up from the FOYER

### Coffee Break

Only the youth in *Ignite* (Yrs 6 to 11) rejoin parents during coffee break.

Please do not disturb the other groups (*Crèche/Imagine* and *Inspire*) during the break!

### Lunch break and end of day

Please collect your children quickly FROM THEIR PICK-UP POINT.

Parents are responsible for their children during lunch.

**Would parents please keep their mobile phones turned on, in silent mode, so that leaders can contact them during the day if needed.**

## VENUE plan

