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How to Lead When You're Not in Charge: Leveraging Influence When You Lack Authority

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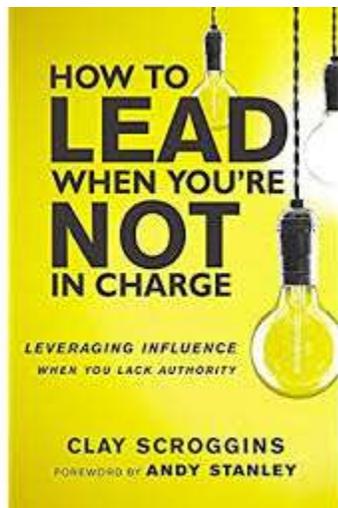
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How to Lead When You're not in Charge: Leveraging Influence When You Lack Authority. Clay Scroggins. Zondervan, 2017. ISBN: 978-0-310-53157-9 (hardcover), 978-0-310-53696-3 (paperback). \$22.99 229 p.



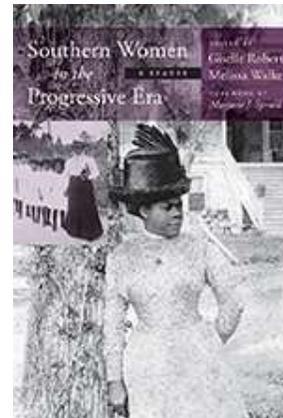
Georgia native Clay Scroggins explains the oddity of leadership. An individual does not have to be in a leadership role in order to lead. Employers may be inclined to depend upon those in authority to indicate change. But what if that change never happens? Those with ideas are encouraged to speak out with confidence that their voice will be heard. Scroggins is a lead pastor of one of a network of six interconnected church campuses in the Metropolitan Atlanta area. When he first took this role, he felt that his ideas were not being valued and understood. Instead of sitting back and pointing fingers and doing nothing about it, he took charge by writing this book and implementing changes in himself and the environment he describes in his book. He wrote this book about leadership.

The first part of this book focuses on how a new leader needs to accept and identify what authority their position offers. After, use the authority wisely to influence and make things better. Scroggins also focuses on the difference between leading by influence rather than authority, and how their influence on others can effect change. Scroggins goes a step further to discuss leadership as a sense of identity. "Near the core of what makes a person a leader is their sense of identity." Your identity has three parts, your past, other people, and last is your personality. From your past, your family plays a key role in molding the person you have become. Other people is how an individual thinks others may perceive them in a particular way. With personality, our characteristics, traits, and talents all shape our lives. Scroggins talks about leading oneself through self leadership principles. First, model followership, meaning follow well. Second, monitor your heart and behavior, meaning monitor your emotions. And lastly, have a plan. What are you doing to lead yourself well first? A person can't lead others until they learn to lead themselves.

Strongly recommended for individuals in leadership and middle management.

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Southern Women in the Progressive Era: A Reader. Edited by Giselle Roberts and Melissa Walker. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2019. ISBN 978-1-61117-925-5. \$59.99. 392 p.



"The document selections in this book feature the voices of southern women who lived in the Progressive Era. That time period stretched from the 1890s to the end of World War I, when the United States was transformed by politically active pressure groups who called for various kinds of reform. The Reformers called themselves progressives, and the name has stuck." (Introduction). So begins this amazing collection of historical research highlighted by personal writings, stories, reflections and photographs of noted women of the times.

The editors highlighted "progressive" women most engaged in reforming their circumstances and bettering the lives of those around them. The progressives were mostly middle class women who sought to "address many of the social, economic, political, and cultural problems of an industrialized and urbanized world". (Intro.)

Roberts and Walker organize the data of their research on "progressives" into three headings: Activists in the Making, A New Southern Workforce, and Regional Commentators. Within each Part (one, two and three), rich detail on their lives and social activism are presented through personal writings in letters, diaries, and journals. These are fascinating reads. Along with the documents, there are numerous illustrations, and photographs that enliven the writings.

As an incentive to acquire and read this book, I hope you will consider your own life if it touched your mother's life between the 1900s and the 1950s. I looked upon mine and could see and hear her and my grandmother's stories of life during the progressive times.