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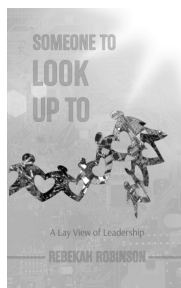
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The author asserts the moral right to be identified as  
the author of this work.

**This booklet is a companion work to *Someone to Look Up To*,  
ISBN 978-0-6486684-0-4, by the same author.  
A slideshow presentation is also in development.**

If you would like to read more by Rebekah Robinson,  
see her *Faith Life Art* blog at  
<https://beckrblog.wordpress.com>  
and follow her Facebook page  
*Rebekah Robinson Author*.

Rebekah's music album *Day In The Sun*  
is available on iTunes and Spotify,  
or in hard copy from [beck@beckoncreative.biz](mailto:beck@beckoncreative.biz)



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This notebook belongs to:

Today's date:

**None of us  
is as smart  
as all of us.**

—Ken Blanchard

**Build a team so strong  
that no one can  
point out the leader.**

—Unknown

**By this everyone will know  
that you are My disciples:  
if you love one another.**

—Jesus Christ, John 13:35 (NIV)



## Introduction

*SOMEONE TO LOOK UP TO* is a book about changing the way we approach leadership in the church. This companion work is designed to help small groups or classes interact with some of its topics. It's a study guide and workbook in one.

In here, you'll find summaries of the main points (I *can* stick to the point when I want to!) and space to journal your musings. I've grouped the chapters into five units, and added questions to facilitate discussion and thought. As the book was written primarily for leaders-in-training, some of them are very confronting questions. This is necessary, if we're going to really engage with the principles rather than just skimming the surface. It's better to ask the hard questions now, than to confront them down the track, underequipped and under the pump, when other people's hearts may be at stake.

If you're facilitating this study on behalf of a group, please allow those present to opt in and out of verbal participation as they feel comfortable or led, rather than forcing confidences (or, conversely, doing all the talking!). Allow each person a chance (but not an obligation) to contribute to the discussion. Go easy, be honest, have fun, be kind. Dream. There's a brainstorm space at the back.

Each unit closes on a positive note, as I pray that this will be an uplifting journey for all who participate. God be with you.

*Rebekah Robinson  
November, 2019*



## Unit 1

Chapter 1: Because I Said So

Chapter 2: This is the Way We've Always Done It

## What Lies Behind Us



### chapter 1

### The Author's Thoughts



- “Because I said so” used to be the Given Reason for doing and believing as we were told
- Holding a title was once a trump card of superiority and authority
- Young people are not the only “entitled” ones
- Spiritual authority is godly, but the circle of love may be even godlier
- True leadership will never block the door to God
- God/leaders: respect is a good beginning, but love is the goal
- God’s Word is authentic enough to withstand investigation
- Let people belong, with all their doubts and questions and sharp edges; answers aren’t as important as empathy
- We are about transforming, not conforming
- All of us should remain teachable
- Complaints can be turned into solution ideas, if there is listening

### Optional Activity

Making time for all to contribute if they wish, go around the room, and as you are comfortable, share with the group where you see yourself fitting into the Body of Christ: your giftings, your roles, your drives. Note these down. (It’s okay if you’re not sure yet: you still belong in our family.)

“Speech bubble” spaces are provided for you to interact with the author’s points on the opposite page. Go nuts. Scribble, rant, doodle, highlight, jot furiously.



### Your Thoughts

because I said so

## Q&amp;A

1. How much stock do you put in “Because I said so”?  
Do you have an example from your own life?  
What do you think was the rationale behind it on that occasion?

2. Authority: How do you view authority in a church setting?

3. Rights: how do you differentiate between *feeling* entitled, *acting* entitled, and *being* entitled?  
How do these three things play out in life?

4. In your “ideal church”, how would the leadership and the laity relate to one another? Is it relational or positional?  
How would you describe the leader’s role?

5. Is there room for diversity in this group? Are we allowed to think differently from one another, or to be at different stages in our spiritual journey? Is there real *listening-to-understand* going on?  
Can we troubleshoot in proactive ways?

6. How do you regard the authority and integrity of the Bible?  
Is science in opposition to it, or on a path to convergence with it?  
Is it safe in this group to explore doubts without pressure?

7. Are we still learning, and willing to keep on learning?