

## More than “Just a Mum”

Do you see yourself as a leader?

No? Just a Mum then, who happens to run a Playgroup because she’s got kids and thinks it’s a good ministry to be involved in?

A leader is not simply someone with a title. Peter Druker, a famous management consultant whose writing has had a huge influence on how we understand leadership, gave the following definition of a leader: “The only definition of a leader is someone who has followers.”

So, let me ask you again – Do you have influence in your ministry, do you make decisions, provide pastoral care or give any other form of shape to what happens?

If you are reading this article then I’d like to share something with you that you might not know:

### You are already a leader.

In fact, the families who come to your ministry see you as a leader and people around you, including the people who lead you, also see it even though they mightn’t use the word.

Acknowledging this isn’t about big noting yourself; it simply means recognising that God has called you to a particular role for a particular season. It both honours that call, and serves a few very practical and important purposes to recognise it. Your ministry is at once “a bunch of Mums” and at the same time a whole lot more than that.

Leadership brings with it permission. It gives you permission to ask questions and make phone calls that you might otherwise feel nosy doing. It also is permission-giving for those in your group who feel they can share things with you that they might not otherwise share with someone they have only recently met. If you don’t see yourself as a leader you risk missing vital opportunities to connect with, and speak into, the lives of the families in your ministry, which would be a huge shame seeing as this is what we are on about.

As a fellow mum I thank you for your willingness to lead.

Peace and Grace,

Louisa Raggatt

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JUDE 1b-2

To those who have been called, who are loved by God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

### Further Reading:

You can read some more thoughts on this topic here:

<http://www.churchvolunteerdaily.com/daily/leading-volunteers/seeing-yourself-as-a-leader/?mqsc=E2147128>