Leading From Where You Are

April 6, 2016

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The Leader

“The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are...”

“...to where they have not been.”
- Henry Kissinger
The One in Front
The one on top
The Conductor
In Front of the Band
Leading the Way
Getting the Praise
Mister Know It All
One with all the titles

Setting your own job titles

What do you do?  
I'm a lead programmer at my one-person company  
I'm a CEO at my one-person company  
I'm getting promoted next month to senior VP of IT

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Rethink Leadership

IT’S TIME FOR A RADICAL RETHINK
My Journey
Lessons from the Journey

Getting Started
What do I want to do when I grow up?
“Read Books”
Off to Iowa
Loving It
Leadership Lesson #1

Find your passion
- Your passion should be your profession

Assess your strengths and weakness, but be unapologetic about your strengths

Acknowledge your weakness and work on it

Set goals – ambitious, “unrealistic,” exciting, bold
- Short 1-3 years
- Long 3-10 years

Pursue relentlessly
Uh Oh, Oh No
Off to Law School
Doctorate, too
Marriage
Now What?

YOUR CAREER
Judge Sam Ervin, Ill Law Clerk
Being a Lawyer
Pregnant! Finally!
Baby #1: Emmanuel
Daycare Drop Off
6 am to 6 pm
Decision Time
Leadership Lesson #2

Passions can change
Goals can change
Be “ok” with change
Be “unafraid”
Be willing to take risks

Actually, become ridiculously excited about change and its potential for your life
The imagination.....

Our imagination has the tremendous capacity to exceed reality.

There are rarely sharks in the water
Dive and Float Up
Start Looking

It's never too late in fiction or in life to revise!

Job Search Road Map

#1 - Taking Inventory
#2 - Creating You
#3 - Developing Your Job Search Campaign
#4 - Getting Out There
#5 - Taking Charge of Your Career
Leadership Lesson #3

Be unafraid to look for another opportunity

Apply even if you don’t think you are qualified

Continually build your network of relationships

Often it is who you know and who knows you
Baby #2: Raebekkah
Vanderbilt University: Real Estate? Tax Lawyer?
Construction Lawyer
University Compliance Officer
Assistant Secretary
8 Years
Overworked, Unhappy
Exhausted!
Leadership Lesson #4

Are you decently content?

Is it time for change?

Are you feeling unvalued?
Priorities -- Grandma
Exploring the Midwest
What do I want to do when I grow up?
Starting at the Bottom
University of Illinois, Urbana
Administrative

Associate Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Access and Assistant Provost

Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Access and Assistant Chancellor

Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Access and Associate Chancellor

Associate Chancellor for Strategic Affairs and Associate Provost for Diversity
Something more
I needed to write
CRITICAL RACE, FEMINISM AND EDUCATION: A SOCIAL JUSTICE MODEL
Menah Pratt-Clarke
(transformative transdisciplinary critical race and Black feminist scholarship)

“Menah Pratt-Clarke’s study represents one of the most thorough integrations of the law, feminism, sociology and African American Studies. —Tracy Sharpley-Whiting, author of Pimps Up, Ho’s Down

Pratt-Clarke reminds us and demands from us a careful scrutiny of the meaning of racial-gender justice for black girls and women—Jennifer F. Hamer, Black Women, Gender and Families

This book, based upon a social justice approach, is a must-read —Adrien K. Wing, author of Critical Race Feminism

With her insightful new book, Critical Race, Feminism, and Education: A Social Justice Model, Pratt-Clarke shows herself to be a meticulous scholar, a tireless advocate, and a passionate storyteller. —Pearl Cleage, author of Mad at Miles: A Blackwoman's Guide to Truth

Recommended as a case study for courses in feminism; black feminism; communication studies; media; law; sociology; history; political science; critical race studies; critical race feminism; African-American studies; and race, class, and gender studies.

http://www.menahprattclarke.com/
From Sharecropping to the Academy
Leadership Lesson #5

Actualize your own potential
° “I matter; I’m important”

Help others to actualize their potential
° “You matter; You are important”
9 Years
Virginia Tech

You interested?

Where?

Southwest Virginia?

West Virginia?
Decision Time
Goodbye Illinois?
Hello, Blacksburg

Vice President for Strategic Affairs

Vice Provost for Inclusion and Diversity

Professor, College of Education
Courageous Transitions

Small Town

Southwest Virginia

Cold Weather
Loving It
Lesson #1: Passion/Profession

Find your passion
  ◦ Your passion should be your profession

Set goals – ambitious, “unrealistic,” exciting
  ◦ Short 1-3 years
  ◦ Long 3-10 years

Pursue relentlessly
Lesson #2: Change Happens

Passions can change

Goals can change

Be “ok” with change

Actually, become ridiculously excited about change and its potential for your life
Lesson #3: Be Bold and Unafraid

Be unafraid to look for another opportunity

Apply even if you don’t think you are qualified

Continually build your network of relationships

It is really who you know and who knows you
Lesson #4: Continued Assessment

Are you decently content?

Is it time for change?

Are you feeling unvalued?
Lesson #5: Transformation

- Actualize your own potential
  - “I matter; I’m important”

- Use your potential to help others to actualize their potential
  - “You matter; You are important”
Getting Started
Start with yourself

“What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?”

Gentle REMINDER:
Take care of myself today.
Ask yourself questions:
What are the rocks in your life?
Find your ideal life metaphor: Colorful Canvas
Can you leave footprints with your life?
Are you getting it to give it?

Ut Prosim (that I may serve)
Are you having fun?

PLAY!

Picnic Time

LOL!
Do you feel joy?

find joy in the journey
Courageous Change

Close some doors today. Not because of pride, incapacity or arrogance, but simply because they lead you nowhere.

-Paulo Coelho

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Leading from where you are

Not about being in front

Not about being in charge

Not about being on top

Not about being in control
Leading from where you are

ABOUT JUST BEING
Leading from where you are
Being you ...
Doing what you love....
Doing it well ...
Doing it for a greater good ...
And doing it for your own personal well-being
Leading from where you are

About following ..... 

Following a greater, grander mission that is bigger than your own life

Following your heart, your dreams, your passions in many spaces and places: family, community, and work
If you are on the ladder or trying to get to the ladder...
You Can Come Down
You Can Step Out of the Line
You can lead from where you are
Celebrate .... often
Leading From Where You Are

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