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ASU alumna embraces career promoting her faith

Animals and people often share idiosyncrasies. People are said to “hide in their shells” in similar fashion to turtles when feeling a sense of vulnerability.

The phrase “coming out of the shell” best describes what LaVeisha Mobley did almost a decade ago as a student at Albany State University. Reared in rural Homerville, Ga., Mobley entered college as a shy, small town girl uncertain as to what college life was all about.

Now, years later, as an accomplished playwright, published author, actress and full-time motivational speaker, the LaVeisha Mobley of yesterday stands in stark contrast to the LaVeisha Mobley of today.

Mobley said her greatest impetus for shedding her shy image was welcoming Christ Jesus in her heart in the spring of 2004. Since then she has been anything but bashful about her mission to bring excitement to the body of Christ from a poetic, literary and theatrical perspective.

“Through poetry, prose and stage productions, my desire is to make you laugh a little and cry a little,” Mobley states on her website. “More importantly, my desire is to motivate you to ‘watch your weight.’ In other words, lay aside every weight which does so easily hinder your progression with the Lord.

“Through the ministry that the Lord allows me to operate in, I pray that many souls will be lead to Christ and those who are weak will grow stronger in the faith.”

As a licensed evangelist in the Church of God in Christ, Mobley promulgates that Christianity is not a boring life; it’s a new life followed by new experiences coupled with new journeys.

One journey she has continued to take is that of a youth motivational speaker. She wants youth of all ages to know “when defining success, use your own measuring stick.”

“That means you are successful when you say you are successful,” Mobley elaborated. “It should not take someone else telling you when you have become successful. Success is more internal; it’s how you live your life. It all boils down to a person being satisfied and happy with who they are inside.”

Another motif of hers is letting young people know they can do anything and attain their goals if they begin with themselves.

Mobley wants her messages to resonate among youth to the same degree her father’s message resonated with her. After hearing that her friends would go to college and be successful and that her life would pass her by if she was void of any direction and guidance,

Mobley took action by enrolling at Albany State.

She graduated cum laude in 2003 with a bachelor’s degree in speech and theatre. She was the first in her family to obtain such an honor.

“The words that he said pierced me, and I became a firm believer that if you want something in life, you have to pursue it,” Mobley explained. “You have to be your own number one fan. You have to motivate yourself.



“I have a strong faith in the Lord, and I really believe were it not for the doors that He opened in my life, I would not be here today. So when I speak of something coming from within, I must give all credit to God.”

Coming from a town with only one traffic light, the transition to Albany with its approximate 100,000 population was daunting for Mobley. She would eat in the cafeteria at hours when the students were few and drive to adjacent buildings on campus to avoid confluences of people. One day while going to eat when she thought the cafeteria would be scarce of students, she was caught by surprise and encountered a host of band members and football players who had the same agenda.

She then realized that she was no different from anyone else and broke free from her “turtle shell.” She said the ASU experience has been wonderful ever since.

“Albany State put me in the position to become the woman that even now I am striving to become by affording me the opportunity to come to school and not only take advantage of the education offered, but the extra-curricular activities as well,” Mobley said.

Some of her activities included cheerleading, serving as first attendant to Miss ASU and Miss Black-and-Gold, and acting in stage plays and commercials.

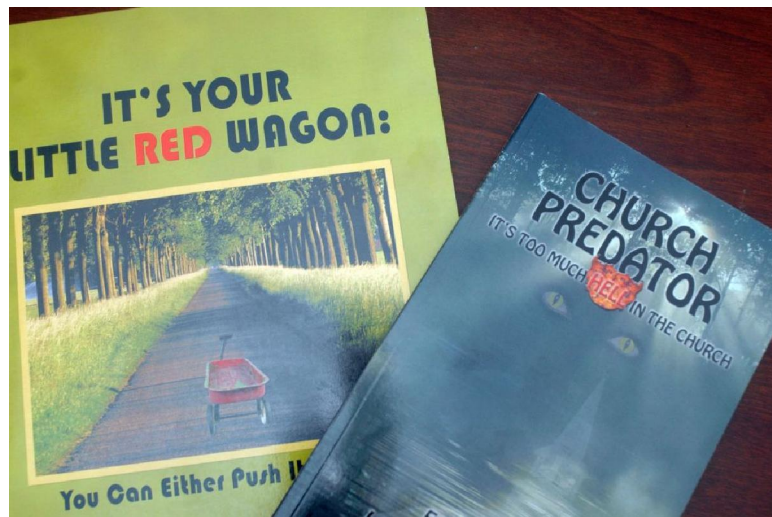
“She was always full of energy and just a nice person to be around,” said Marion Ryant, who worked with Mobley on the cheerleading squad. “I could always tell that she was going places because of how outgoing she was. She told me about her calling, and I am proud of what she is doing.”

In 2006 Mobley graduated with a master’s degree in education with a concentration in counseling and psychology from Troy University.

She travels the country speaking at conferences, retreats, youth events, revivals and workshops. She will host the Women of Worth Teen Conference 2009 on April 4 at the Homerville Municipal Complex. The conference is for girls ages 12-18 and will feature Albany native Haley Kilpatrick, founder and executive director of Girl Talk Inc.

“It is an educational and spiritual conference intended to be a time of healing for young ladies,” Mobley said. “I am excited to be able to go back to my hometown and give back.”

She now resides in Savannah, where she is a member of Fellowship of Love Community Church under the leadership of Drs. Larry and Mary Murray. Her books include “Church Predator: It’s TOO Much Hell in Church,” “It’s Your Little Red Wagon: You Can Either Push It or Pull It,” “SCARS: Is There a Man for Me?” and “What Must I Do to be Saved?”



Mobley wrote two large-scale stage productions: “What’s the Matter with the World Today: Love, Lust, Lies and the Church” and “We Wrestle Not Against Flesh and Blood.”

Mobley said she loves what she does and has goals to do more of it.

“At the end of the day, I want people to look at me and see a God-fearing woman and everything else falls into place,” Mobley said. “The one thing I would love to convey to people because of my background and where I am in life is to try Jesus. That is the best thing I could offer anyone. Once He is first in your life, everything else will line up accordingly.”

To learn more about Mobley, her ministry and/or published works, visit her website at www.lmobleyproductions.com.