

WOMEN LEADERSHIP VIRTUAL EXCHANGE (WLVE) DIGITAL STORYTELLING PROJECT

Balancing a Successful Career with Motherhood

Text by KSU student Caitlin Farr. Photos provided by Princess Moon

Princess Moon is an exceptional leader in her community. Princess holds a leadership position within the Chick-fil-A restaurant company as well as in her local church. Currently, she oversees training, hiring, and development at three Chick-fil-A stores, co-hosts a Chick-fil-A podcast, and mentors young women within her church. Both leadership positions have provided Princess with numerous learning and management opportunities that have allowed her to invest in the development of others.

Before working at Chick-fil-A or volunteering at her local church, Princess first experienced leading through her high school. She was her freshman class' representative which put Princess in the position of making decisions and mediating issues for others. It was in this position where Princess first learned the specific skill of how to articulate a group of people's needs after listening to their concerns.

Princess began working at Chick-fil-A in 2017. An important thing to note about Chick-fil-A is that the restaurant company does a fantastic job in investing in their employees and allowing them to develop leadership skills. Princess experienced firsthand the investment made by the restaurant company as she was sponsored by Chick-fil-A to attend a Dream Big conference by Bob Goff. The conference had a major impact on Princess and her leadership style as the Dream Big Conference taught Princess how to not only unleash her own potential

in following her dreams but how to also unleash the potential of those she leads. In addition, Princess has been able to develop problem solving skills which have helped her in numerous areas outside of her leadership at Chick-fil-A.



Problem solving and other leadership skills have not only helped Princess in her work at Chick-fil-A but have also allowed her to succeed in leadership at her church. Specifically, Princess uses her problem-solving skills the most when helping lead her church's college ministry. In ministering to young women in the college ministry, Princess has noticed that she is often able to help provide a solution to challenges the young women face. By assisting the women she leads, Princess can foster trust and communication in her personal ministry within the church. Princess has also noticed that leadership within a church is much different than leadership within a restaurant company. At Chick-fil-A, Princess has clear work guidelines such as specific hours she works. In contrast, leading within her church has presented Princess with a different and less structured atmosphere. At her church, there are less requirements that need to be met such as specific hours to be worked. In addition, Princess often finds herself giving

advice and having to trust in the Lord that the situations will resolve as she cannot lead with the same authority at a church that she can at a company. The different leadership styles between the two positions has encouraged Princess to be more flexible and understanding while still encouraging the people she leads.

The [WLVE project](#) is a partnership between Hassan II University of Casablanca and Kennesaw State University. It is supported by the Stevens Initiative, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government, and is administered by the Aspen Institute. The Stevens Initiative is also supported by the Bezos Family Foundation and the governments of Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.

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Princess is married and has a little girl with a boy on the way. While balancing being a wife, mother, expecting her second child, and work is hard, Princess splits her time the best she can. Princess is especially intentional when spending time with her daughter.



Princess does her best to work while her daughter is asleep so that Princess can devote all her attention to her when she is awake. Princess' husband also helps care for their daughter, though some days the Moons rely on childcare to watch and take care of her.

While splitting time between raising a family and leading others is hard, it is extremely rewarding. Some days have challenges for Princess as she may make a decision intending it to be helpful but having to respond to that decision should it have negative effects. In addition, Princess also mentioned that adapting her leadership style to fit the individuals she leads can be difficult, but once she finds the style of leadership each person responds to best Princess is able to lead much more effectively.

Despite the challenges, Princess has found leadership to be incredibly rewarding as it has allowed her to affirm and encourage those she leads. Specifically, Princess enjoys being able to help those she leads and serves at Chick-fil-A, whether that means investing time and attention in her coworkers or providing a free meal to someone in need. Princess also enjoys being able to provide scholarship opportunities to

qualified employees as scholarships are a way in which Princess can further invest in her coworkers.

Princess' goal for herself as a leader at Chick-fil-A is to eventually own and operate her own restaurant or work at the restaurant company's corporate support center. For her employees, Princess' goals are that they become assistant general managers, grow in their awareness of professional etiquette, and enhance their communication skills. For leading within her church, Princess' personal goal is that she becomes more intentional in building up those she leads to enter leadership roles themselves. Princess also wishes to open her life more to those she assists in her ministry of leading young women. Princess' goals for the young women she leads are for the women to be more willing to use their natural abilities to glorify the Lord in whatever job or field they enter, and that they will have the willingness and boldness to lead others.

Caitlin Farr is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs at Kennesaw State University. She intends to graduate in December 2021 with a certificate in Intelligence and Homeland Security. Caitlin wishes to pursue a career in international relations after graduation.



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