WOMEN LEADERSHIP VIRTUAL EXCHANGE (WLVE) DIGITAL STORYTELLING PROJECT

Morning Show Radio Host Taylor Scott Talks Leadership, Influential Women

Story by KSU Student, Michael-Chase Strollo.

Surprisingly a self-described tomboy, radio personality and co-host of the "Kevin and Taylor Show," Taylor Scott, hates shopping. When she is not onair laughing, joking and swapping stories with her co-host Kevin Avery, Scott prefers spending her free time trail running, mountain biking and hiking with her husband Glenn.

WFSH-FM launched 21 years ago in Atlanta, Georgia as a contemporary Christian music station under its parent company Salem Media Group. Scott was first discovered alongside her co-host Avery at WAY-FM, a Christian radio station in Palm Beach, Florida. The south Florida native was asked by Avery to join him full-time where they began hosting the "Kevin and Taylor Show," while juggling other station related duties. For Scott, her first day was nothing short of a rush of excitement. "We were so excited to make friends and establish a community of listeners," said Scott. "People listen to radio for companionship and we couldn't wait to provide that." Fast forward 20 years, the "Kevin and Taylor Show" has expanded their platform and is now heard on nearly 100 radio stations nationwide. Although Scott was initially against becoming a nationally syndicated radio show, her co-host Avery encouraged it. "Through modern technology, we have been able to stay local sounding," said Scott.

During her senior year of high school, Scott panicked when she learned that she needed to decide on a career goal in order to pick a college that would help meet her goals. "My parents helped me rule out math and science," said Scott. Realizing that she loves telling stories and with the mention of radio from her dad, Scott said, "a lightbulb came on." Scott joked that she got her start in radio her senior year of high school making the announcements over the intercom with her friend Darien, who Scott said had a great sense of humor. "It was like a mini morning radio show," said Scott. Serving as an influential woman leader in her community and across the country, Scott believes in combining empathy with leadership. "I think women especially have the ability to see the world from another's eyes and that helps them become more empathetic," said Scott. To Scott, one challenge that women leaders face is with men who are insecure. In order to overcome those challenges, Scott encourages women leaders to be creative when it comes to



Glenn Scott and Taylor Scott photographed while on a mountain bike trail. Photo by Taylor Scott

motivating subordinate men, without undermining their self-esteem.

After 28 years of marriage to her husband, Scott said she has seen "how beautifully it can work when men and women view each other as equals." With changing times, political correctness and the modern-day feminism movements, "chivalry somehow got misrepresented as something that puts women down," said Scott. However, when done right, "it puts women in a place of honor." Scott recounted a story of a father she had known who taught his three boys to stand behind their chair at the dinner table and wait for their

The <u>WLVE project</u> 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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mother to be seated before taking their seats. Although it may seem old fashioned, Scott said she sees it as "putting the woman of the family in a place of honor by showing her the respect she deserves." "Those boys are going to make excellent leaders someday, because they will know to not only treat women as their equals, but to treat them with respect," said Scott.

Every day, thousands of men, women and children across the country tune in to hear Scott. Her advice to young girls and women listening who are working to become successful is simple; learn to love learning. "Having listeners who work hard every day to provide for their families and make the word a better place, I never feel like I run out of things to talk about," said Scott. "When you're constantly learning, being curious about people and the world around you, you don't have a chance to get stagnant." Scott said she was painfully shy in middle school, but determined to force herself to "open up, speak out and be more confident." Having taught her nieces that "overcoming shyness is like exercising a muscle," said Scott. "You can't let it atrophy." Scott reassures those listening to not get discouraged if they work jobs that they dislike immensely. "I had so many jobs I hated before I was able to do radio full-time and each one taught me something and prepared me for this career," said Scott.

During difficult times, Scott said she loves providing the chance for her listeners to focus on hope, joy and how they can make a difference in the world. 2020 was a year that put motivation to the test. "The Fish is a Christian radio station and because of that we get to remind our listeners of the hope that comes from faith in God's love and what He has done for us," said Scott.

Whether it's sharing stories about a hiker stranded on Mount Rainier during a blinding snowstorm who got a second chance at life or mocking herself as "an accident waiting to happen" dressed in Bubble Wrap on Halloween, Scott seems to keep listeners on their toes. For inspiration, Scott said she is especially drawn to people who can use comedy "to not only get people through difficult times, but to get them to think in a way they may not have previously." Although Scott said he "loves paying attention to what the 'greats' have accomplished," Scott's humility is strikingly noticeable. It is clear that those that look to her as a source of warm, kind and positive encouragement are grateful to have her as an inspirational leader.

Described as "Safe for the Whole Family" with the tagline of "Good, Clean Fun", "The Kevin and Taylor Show" can be heard weekdays from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time and carried different times of the day across the country. You can also stream the "Kevin and Taylor Show" on The Fish mobile app.



Michael-Chase Strollo is a model, actor and personality who founded and became CEO of Lakeshore Holdings, a consulting firm which specializes in the development, placement, publicity and safeguarding of exceptional artists and talent. Strollo appears regularly television and radio shining a light on ending modern day slavery and human trafficking as well as bringing awareness to substance abuse and suicide prevention. Strollo has been featured nationally and internationally in publications including; The Straits Times,

B.E.T, The AJC, Sputnik, Townhall and on the CBS daytime television talk show "The Mel Robbins Show." Retiring from the United States Army National Guard in 2019, Strollo has continued to work in the digital, music and entertainment industry. Strollo is a junior at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia where he is majoring public relations.

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