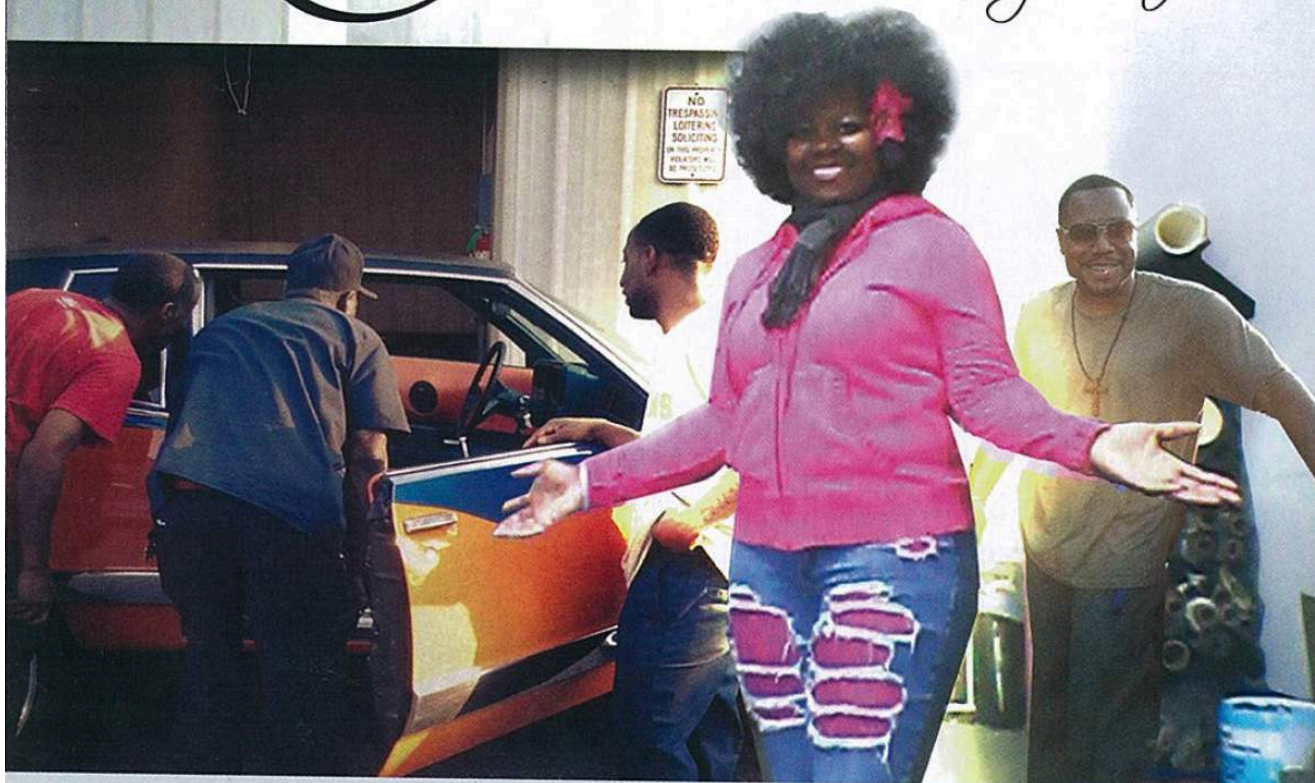


Constance Griffin

Interviewed by *George Houston*



A GREAT WOMAN STANDS BEHIND EVERY GOOD MAN ANTWAN'S UPHOLSTERY

She was fired from her job and God spoke to her amidst self-doubt and confusion. He told her to start a business that would leverage her husband's unique skillset repairing and customizing auto upholstery. In a powerful leap of faith, she procured a contract that would transform her husband's low paying job into a business that would demand the value he was worth. She is spiritually a success and in the next few years will let faith guide her in taking Antwan's Upholstery to a bigger brighter level.

G.L.A.M. *girl* INSPIRATION
Giving Life and Motivation

“Whatever your passion is or gifts are,
your gift will always make room for
you and your passion will bring you
before great people.”

Constance Griffin

How did you start Antwan's Upholstery?

I am the owner of Antwan's Upholstery. We have been in business for 2 years now and I originally started the business out of necessity. I started this business out of the back of my car after I got terminated from my job. My husband did upholstery work for 20 years and didn't make much money but the service he provided was way more valuable than his paycheck. God spoke to me and told me to use my husband's talents in a way that would make our family more money.

After the first year, I got SWAM certified through my church. My pastor does a quarterly breakfast that provides SWAM certification. I remember it like it was yesterday. The lord laid it on my heart to attend that breakfast. It was on a Saturday morning from 9am to 12pm. During this breakfast I learned that every state agency has to do business with a SWAM certified business. Once I got SWAM certified the clients came looking for me. I got a call from V-DOT and they asked me to do headliners for them. After I procured that contract, it really helped our business grow. I truly know, all you have to do is rely on God and he will send you what you need.

How is it working with your spouse everyday?

My husband and I were a perfect fit. I love old school cars. [Laughs] We both love cars and have the same passions. Our marriage is special.

I think we as women often miss out on alot of opportunities with great men because we judge a book by it's cover. When I met my husband, he wasn't the man in the suit and tie with the 6 figure salary that came and swept me off my feet but in his heart he was my knight in shining armor. He's a really good hard-working man and I thank God everyday for our union.

What would you tell a young lady trying to make it in business today?

Whatever your passion is or gifts are, your gift will always make room for you and your passion will bring you before great people. Be open to letting God use your passion to help feed your family and make the world a better place.

What are three words that define you?

Sincere, Go-Getter and NO-Nonsense. I am about my Father's business. If I am about His business, He will take care of mine.

I love what I do. This little office is my sanctuary. It is my prayer closet. Everyday I flip over the sign and can't wait for the new blessings God has in store for me. I love the Lord.■

For more information about Constance Griffin and Antwan's Upholstery contact 757.256.4093 or visit the Shop @ 1645 West Pembroke Avenue, Ste. 30 Hampton VA 23661