

FIVE MORE MINUTES

by DAN GARCIA

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: To show the downfalls of not having your priorities set straight.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Pacing is extremely important for this script. The audience needs to feel time slipping away from David. Build the tension steadily until it peaks with the overlapping lines at the end. Work with those three actors on the timing of their lines so they all end at the same time. Be careful, however, not to let it sound "timed." The actors need to keep the pace and intensity their characters have built to, but they need to end their lines at the same time. This can be tricky, but it's very effective and makes David's last plea that much more pathetic.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Priorities

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ecclesiastes 3:1, Psalm 31:15

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

DAVID MORGAN - An employee

JUDY MORGAN - His wife

MR. WEAVER - His boss

LINDA HOLLAND - The interviewee

PROPS: 1) Desk

2) Two chairs

3) A computer or laptop

4) A stack of files, papers and various office supplies

5) Two phones, for DAVID and JUDY

COSTUMES: Contemporary dress, appropriate to character

SOUND: Four wireless mics; sound effect of phone ringing

LIGHTING: General stage for office; a spot on JUDY, stage left

SETTING: DAVID MORGAN'S office

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com

www.DramaMinistry.com

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DAVID is at his desk, frantically typing away on his computer. He is obviously busy and is mumbling as he works. After a few seconds, the phone rings.

DAVID: *(Picking up phone)* David Morgan. Uh-huh ... uh-huh. Only six drafts? No problem. I can create a strategy with my eyes-*(pause)* What?! Six dozen? Come on, Ben, I don't have that kind of time to ... wait, wait, I ... yeah, but ... yeah, but ... look, just give me five more minutes, okay. Let me figure this out. *(Hangs up, to himself:)* How am I gonna do-

Mr. Weaver: *(ENTERING, sternly:)* Morgan, where are you?

DAVID: *(Startled)* Yes, Mr. Weaver.

Mr. Weaver: It's 10:45. Do you have the KEPCO financial presentation ready?

DAVID: *(Starts reaching through a stack of files on his desk)* Ah ... it's ... right ... here! *(Hands it to MR. WEAVER.)*

Mr. Weaver: Good, good. All ... prepared? *(Opens the file as he speaks, the papers inside fall out.)*

DAVID: *(Stammering)* Well ... not quite. I have these other files to go through. And Ben from Tax asked me to prepare six dozen drafts of-

Mr. Weaver: *(Exploding)* Not quite?! Morgan, I have a presentation in 15 minutes and no hard copy to present.

DAVID: I'll do it immediately, sir.

Mr. Weaver: Do you have the CD-ROM presentation ready?

DAVID: Finishing it right now, sir.

Mr. Weaver: Along with the computer slide show?

DAVID: I'm having Charlie in the supply room bring up a projector right now, sir.

Mr. Weaver: Morgan, I need this hard copy now!

DAVID: Sir, yes, sir. *(Phone rings)* Just give me five more minutes and it'll be on your desk.

Mr. Weaver: Now, Morgan!

MR. WEAVER EXITS. Spot fades up on JUDY, standing stage left, holding a phone.

DAVID: *(Picking up phone)* David Morgan.

JUDY: Hi, honey, it's me.