

## MISSED OPPORTUNITY

by SCOTT W. KIRK

**GENRE:** Drama

**SYNOPSIS:** Thomas, Gerry and Stephanie have been working long hours for weeks to finish a project proposal for a client. They're in the home stretch, but are all tired and a little on edge. When Stephanie is out of the room, Gerry takes a bold step and asks Thomas, "Do you believe in God?" Gerry opens the door wide for Thomas to talk about his faith, but Thomas brushes him off. Then the plot takes a twist and we're left wondering how many missed opportunities we've had in our lives.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Do not glorify or idealize any of these characters. There is a certain grace and beauty in just presenting these characters as the flawed beings that they are. Show their anger and frustration and confusion and pain and joy. Work with your actors on subtext (the meaning of a character's thought that lies just beneath the surface of the language).

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Evangelism, Christian Living

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 28:19-20, Romans 1:15-17

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Worship service, Evangelism team meeting, Bible study

**CHARACTERS:**

Thomas ~ A committed Christian who compartmentalizes his faith

Gerry ~ Age 55; overweight; searching for God

Stephanie ~ Project supervisor in an engineering firm

**PROPS:** 1) Conference table  
2) Stacks of business folders, papers  
3) Flip chart  
4) Styrofoam cups  
5) Wallet with cash for Thomas  
6) Notepad and pen  
7) Telephone

**COSTUMES:** Business attire for all; raincoat for Gerry

**SOUND:** 3 wireless mikes; sound effects of rain and thunder (optional)

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A conference room in an engineering firm

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Scene opens with THOMAS, GERRY and STEPHANIE at a conference table. THOMAS is on the phone with his wife. He looks out the office window DSR.

**THOMAS:** I don't know, probably midnight if we're lucky ... that's okay, we'll order carryout or something. Give the kids a kiss for me ... sure, put her on. *(Notices something outside)* Wow, that was close.

**STEPHANIE:** *(Crosses to window)* What happened?

**THOMAS:** The street's wet and some idiot ran a red light.

**STEPHANIE:** That intersection's an accident waiting to happen. *(Crosses away from window)*

**THOMAS:** *(Into phone)* Hi, honey ... I love you, too. I'll tuck you in when I get home ... good night, sweetheart. *(He hangs up.)*

**STEPHANIE:** What's for dinner?

**THOMAS:** Lasagna.

**STEPHANIE:** I'd give my right arm for a home-cooked meal.

**THOMAS:** And miss all this excitement?

**STEPHANIE:** Working 80 hours a week with you two is not exactly my idea of fun.

**THOMAS:** We're in the home stretch. We'll FedEx this in the morning and cross our fingers.

**GERRY:** I still don't have the source list and disbursement charts.

**THOMAS:** I gave those to you.

**GERRY:** No, you did not.

**THOMAS:** I'm sure I did.

**GERRY:** If you did, I'd have them. And I don't.

**THOMAS:** *(Looks through his papers)* Here they are. Sorry.

**STEPHANIE:** *(To GERRY)* What's eating you?

**GERRY:** Nothing. Can we just stay on target here?

**STEPHANIE:** I need something to eat. You want to order something from the sub shop across the street?