

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? *by John Cospers*

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A selfish worker complains to his boss he just isn't getting anything out of his job—even though he himself is giving nothing.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M

THEME: Christian Living; Serving vs. Getting

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 15:1-8

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon illustration

CHARACTERS:

FRED—a selfish employee
GRAHAM—Fred's boss

PROPS: Office furnishings

COSTUMES: Business formal

SOUND: Two wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: An executive office

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Fred is completely clueless, oblivious to the ludicrous nature of his point of view. Graham is very shrewd and basically gives Fred the rope to hang himself.

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FRED enters GRAHAM's office.

FRED: Boss, can I have a word with you?

GRAHAM: Certainly, Fred. Have a seat.

FRED: Thank you.

GRAHAM: Something I can help you with?

FRED: I certainly hope so. It's about my job, sir.

GRAHAM: Your job?

FRED: I'm not happy with it.

GRAHAM: You're not?

FRED: No, sir. Frankly, I'm really disappointed.

GRAHAM: How so?

FRED: Well, to be honest, I'm not getting much out of it. I haven't for some time. I gotta be honest, it's a down-right drudgery some days.

GRAHAM: I'm sorry you feel that way. You do know that you're an important part of this company.

FRED: Yes, yes, I've heard it all before. Customer service is the life blood of this business. But rhetoric aside, I feel pretty lifeless. I come in here every day, punch in, sit at my desk, and nothing happens.

GRAHAM: You mean you're not getting any phone calls?

FRED: Oh, no! I get plenty of phone calls. "I need this! I want a price on that!" It's always, "I want," and "I need." All day, it's an endless stream of needy cry babies who want everything yesterday and complain that it's not right when they do get it. Like I care what they need.

GRAHAM: You mean you don't?

FRED: No.