

MOVE OR STAY?

by KAREN YINGLING

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: Frank's company is relocating, and Frank has been offered a promotion with the move. When he turns down the job, Frank must explain to his superiors why higher pay isn't his main motivator.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: a. The director and actors should try and find the who, what, where, when, and why of the characters. Why does Tyler want Frank to transfer? What is Tyler's relationship to Frank? Who is Frank to Tyler? Where are the characters? What city? State? What does Frank do for the company?

b. The actors should also think about their bodily actions and gestures in the sketch. What can they do, physically, to communicate emotions and thoughts? (i.e. perhaps Tyler continues to check his watch) Be sure to integrate personal traits and mannerisms into the character.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Commitment, Priorities

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Hebrews 11:8-16, Luke 12:29-34

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Bible Study, Men's Group

CHARACTERS:

FRANK— A middle-aged business manager and family man

TYLER— A twenty-something executive on the rise

PROPS: 1) Desk

2) Two chairs

3) Phone

4) Papers and office paraphernalia on desk

COSTUMES: Contemporary business clothing

SOUND: Two wireless mikes

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Frank's office

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Scene opens with FRANK seated at his desk. TYLER ENTERS Frank's office.

TYLER: Hi, Frank. Can I talk to you a second?

FRANK: Sure, Tyler, come in. Have a seat.

TYLER: *(Sits)* Have you accepted the transfer to Chicago, yet?

FRANK: I've already notified personnel that I was turning down the offer.

TYLER: We'd like to give you a chance to change your mind.

FRANK: *(Amused)* Sorry. *(Serious)* I spent a lot of time and effort considering it. At this point in my life, moving to Chicago just isn't right for me, or my family.

TYLER: That's where you're wrong. It's exactly the right time to make a move. In fact, not moving is career suicide.

FRANK: *(Chuckling)* Boy, that serious, huh?

TYLER: Frank, American Press is serious about consolidating. This branch closes in two weeks. Everything moves to Chicago. If you refuse to move, you'll be out of a job.

FRANK: I appreciate your concern, but I've been in this business a long time. I'll get a job with another company.

TYLER: Where? There isn't another printing firm in a hundred miles of here.

FRANK: I have skills that can translate into other businesses.

TYLER: What about your age? You're pushing retirement, for cryin' out loud. Who's going to hire you?

FRANK: *(Indignant)* I'm only 52.

TYLER: My point exactly.

FRANK: Why are you so concerned about my welfare?

TYLER: *(Stands and paces)* Truth is, Frank, we need you. American Press has had way too much turnover in recent years.

FRANK: Tell me about it.

TYLER: In order to make things flow, we need someone with your experience to head things up. I figure you for a guy who loves a challenge. Chicago will be a welcome relief to the boring routine you're used to here.