

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

CAREER DAY

by TM BASS

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Frank is a career counselor, discussing career options with a young student and the need for planning ahead. The catch here is that we can't see the student—she's engulfed by a huge office chair. As Frank's pep talk draws to a close, we realize the student he's been counseling is his 4-year-old daughter, Amanda. This amusing look at overzealous parenting is a great discussion starter.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Keep the audience from seeing Amanda or knowing about her before the appropriate time. If you have blackout capability, that's easy: Put the actress in the chair backstage and wheel her on the set in blackout as if the chair were empty. If you can't achieve blackout, it becomes slightly more difficult, but is still achievable. Make sure the actor playing Frank doesn't blow it, either.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1

TOPIC: Youth, Priorities, Parenting

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Proverbs 22:6, Jeremiah 29:11

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Family Service, Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

Frank - Age 35-40; a career counselor

Amanda - Age 4; his daughter

PROPS:

- 1) Desk and chair for Frank
- 2) Large leather chair, big enough to hide Amanda

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

SOUND: One wireless mic; recording of Roger Miller singing "Do What You Do Do Well" (optional—secure appropriate permissions before using this song.)

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Frank's home office

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CAREER DAY *by Tm Bass*

Lights up on a nice home office. Downstage is a large leather chair, facing an upstage desk. FRANK ENTERS with a cup of coffee. He addresses the person in the chair, whom we do not see.

FRANK: Good morning. I'm sorry to keep you waiting. Just one of those mornings, you know what I mean? Can I get you something? Something to drink? *(Pause)* No? Okay. Well, let's get down to business, shall we? First of all, this may not be necessary, but let me explain to you exactly what it is that I do. For a living, I am a career counselor. Now, that means that not only am I here to talk to you about a possible career path, but also your current educational track. As you know, I had a very long and interesting conversation with your mother last week about your current school. She understands that you like the school, that you've settled into it, and that you've developed friendships there, but she wonders if it's really what's best for you. Now, we all know that moms and dads worry about their kids when they're out of the house. At school. But I have to tell you, I've taken a good, hard look at your school, compared it with some others, and I think that your mom may be on to something. Now, hear me out on this. Let's say that you do indeed decide to continue your plan to enter the medical field. Now, although your current school, KU, offers everything that you need to start, I believe that you're missing something there. That ... thing ... that something that really helps you take what you're learning and be able to transfer that knowledge to others. Look, let me be perfectly frank with you. I believe that you need to be in a school with other students who will help you see how what you've learned fits into who you are. Does that make sense? Do you understand what I'm saying? Good! All right. Well, it's been great talking to you! Hey ... how 'bout a hug?

(AMANDA, age 4, emerges from the large chair and hugs FRANK.)

That's my girl! Now, let's go see if Mom has breakfast ready.

(They EXIT as lights fade and Roger Miller sings "Do What You Do Do Well.")

..... Lights down.

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