

## FIRST CAR

by TIM SHOEMAKER

**GENRE:** Drama/Light Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** Kurt and Bob are high school seniors looking at used cars. Kurt is intent on buying his first car; Bob would rather just look. Then they meet the slick salesman. By the end of the sketch, Kurt is driving a car off the lot. This script has been used to open discussions with youth groups on drugs and other temptations teens face. On the surface, the sketch is about buying a car, but teens will relate to the message that temptation is all around them.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** The key is to make the sketch about buying a used car and to let the youth watching come up with other applications for the problem Kurt finds himself in. If the actors are "trying" to make it a sketch about the temptation to use drugs, it will come off as preachy and miss its mark. Make Kurt and Bob as realistic as possible. Make Salesman slick and smooth without being stereotypical.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Temptation

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 6:13, Hebrews 2:18

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**CHARACTERS:**

Kurt ~ A high-school senior intent on buying his first car

Bob ~ Kurt's best friend

Salesman ~ A very slick used car salesman

**PROPS:** 1) Five or six sets of four chairs (two in front, two in back) to simulate the front and back seats of used cars  
2) A sign for each "car" — low miles; buy now, pay later; bumper-to-bumper guarantee; low financing; one owner; a real steal

**COSTUMES:** Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

**SOUND:** Three wireless mics

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A used car lot

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*KURT and BOB ENTER. They are on a used car lot, looking at the cars.*

**BOB:** I don't know why I let you talk me into this. My dad calls this place the "danger zone."

**KURT:** The danger zone?

**BOB:** Yeah. He says when you walk onto a used car lot, you're walking right into danger. It's enemy territory. You're like wounded prey to a hungry, prowling salesman.

**KURT:** I hear you. My dad feels the same way. He hates going to car dealers. So I figure I'll just check things out myself. What do I need him for? Anyway, I don't know what the big deal is. You just have to use your head. It's not dangerous ... I think it's fun.

**BOB:** *(Looking around uneasily)* These salesmen are smooth.

**KURT:** Hey, I didn't say I was going to buy a thing. I'm just going to look around. Did I tell you my dad wants me to buy our neighbor's Volaré? Gimme a break. He says he wants me in something safe. *(Pause)* I need a car that ... you know ... fits me.

**BOB:** Yeah, well, if you don't watch out, some salesman will talk you into buying one.

**KURT:** Baloney. I'm not buying today. I'm looking. Besides, I didn't even bring any money. *(Looking at the car in front of him)* Hey, now this car is more like it. Take a look at this one, Bobby Boy. What a hunk of American steel.

**BOB:** *(Pointing to the fender)* Ah, that piece of American steel is beginning to rust, pal.

**KURT:** Surface rust. I could probably buff that off.

*SALESMAN ENTERS and saunters toward them. BOB nudges KURT.*

**BOB:** Uh-oh. You're in the "danger zone" now.

**KURT:** Take it easy. I can handle it.

**SALESMAN:** *(With a broad smile)* Hello, gentlemen. She's a beauty, isn't she? A real honey. *(BOB turns so SALESMAN can't see him and rolls his eyes at KURT.)*

**KURT:** *(Trying to be cool and look older than he is)* Yeah. Nice car. We're just looking around a little.

**SALESMAN:** Great. Look all you want, but you already found the hottest car on the lot. This baby screams. Zero-to-60 in six seconds.

**KURT:** Six seconds?