DRAMA Ministry

THANK YOU FOR THE FLEAS? by DIANNE MUELLER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A mother is in a hurry, picking up her child from school. The streetlights are red and Mom is impatient. She gets an unexpected lesson in patience from her child.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Mom is driving and is in a hurry, so she is distracted. She starts out a little crabby, but it is important that she is not too annoyed at the beginning and doesn't stay annoyed throughout. As the scene progresses, we need to see her relax. She is loving and compassionate as she listens to her child. She is in a hurry, but even in her distraction, she knows that her child has something to say and she listens, even if only half-way at first.

TIME: 5 minutes

- CAST BREAKDOWN: 1F, 1 child
- **TOPIC:** Gratitude / Gratefulness
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Hebrews 12:28; 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18; Job 1:21
- CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Anytime, Thanksgiving
- SUGGESTED USE: Sermon starter

CHARACTERS:

MOM: Distracted and impatient (it is important to play this with humor and compassion, so that Mom is likable)

- JESSIE: A middle-school-age boy or girl excited about a lesson learned at school
- PROPS: 2 chairs to simulate a car
- **COSTUMES:** Hospital scrubs for Mom; regular school clothes for Jessie
- SOUND: Wireless mics if desired
- LIGHTING: General stage
- SETTING: A car

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THANK YOU FOR THE FLEAS? by Dianne Mueller

Set two chairs next to each other to simulate a car. Mom will pantomime using a steering wheel, pulling over to the curb, etc. Jessie should pantomime opening the car door and putting on her seatbelt. Work with your actors to get the pantomime solid so it helps the action along.

MOM: I am so late. I should have left earlier. Noooo... another light. (*She speeds up to get through the light.*) That was close... I would call that one orange.

Mom pulls up to Jessie's school.

MOM: Finally. Pull out of the way! Don't these parents know the rules? Left in, right out.

Mom pulls up, stops the car, and puts it in park. She looks around for Jessie.

MOM: She should be out by now... where is she?

Mom sees Jessie.

MOM: There she is. Jessie! Come on. Jessie, come on... get in.

JESSIE: Hi, Mom.

MOM: Hi, Sweetie. Buckle up. I'm sorry I'm running so late. The hospital was crazy today.

JESSIE: No problem. I got out late anyway. Hey, Mom, we talked about this really cool story in Lit class today.

Mom is still distracted, trying to pull out of the lot.

MOM: Uh-huh, Honey, are you buckled? Hurry up.

JESSIE: Yeah.

MOM: Good.

JESSIE: Remember I was telling you about that book we're reading in Lit class called The Hiding Place?

MOM: (Still distracted) Hmm?

JESSIE: You know the one about Corrie Ten Boom and her sister, Betsie, during World War II.

MOM: Hon, I'm sorry... I can't listen right now. I have to watch traffic. Can you tell me about this later?

JESSIE: (Shrugs) Okay.