

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Do Not Steal,” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for July 26, 2015. The lesson is found on page 47 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Police in Providence, Utah, didn't have much trouble finding the thieves who had just stolen a car. The young couple was at a convenience store near the scene of the crime. But they were not driving; they were waiting for the taxi they had called.

The reason that 19-year-old Alexander Katz and his younger girlfriend hadn't driven off was that the car turned out to be a stick shift, which Katz did not know how to drive.

In the process of the theft, the girlfriend, who *did* know how to drive a stick, had tried to advise Katz on how to operate the car, but he struggled and eventually had to give up. It's not clear why the girlfriend herself didn't just take over the driving. The couple abandoned the car and ran to the nearby store. When the police spotted them waiting for their taxi, the two thieves started to run. The girlfriend was apprehended immediately. Katz was caught in a few hours.

Reports say that the young man and his girlfriend had begun their evening by “looking for Benadryl.” At some point they decided to steal a car, and managed to find one with the keys inside. The owner of the car actually saw it being driven down the street but, at first, thought it was some kind of prank being played on him by his own brother. Soon the owner realized it was an actual theft and called the police.

Katz was arrested on suspicion of transferring a stolen vehicle (a second-degree felony) and for failing to stop at the command of a law officer. The younger girlfriend was turned over to her parents; her case will go to juvenile court.

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:*

**If you were rating the seriousness of sins/crimes on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the worst), where would you rate stealing?**

**Have you ever stolen anything? Why? Did you think it was wrong at the time? Do you now? Did you ever go back and try to make the situation right?**

**Would you guess that this couple had ever stolen before? Do you think they'd planned to steal the Benadryl too? Why did you answer as you did?**

**How do you think this couple would feel if something were to be stolen from *them*?**

**Let's see what the Bible has to say about stealing, its cost, and its cure.**