



## TRAFFIC COURT – NO PARKING



**Sign:** No Parking  
**Characters:** Show Host, Judge, Bailiff, Patty Parking, and Officer Con Viction  
**Props/Costumes:** Judge can wear a graduation gown, gavel  
**Theme:** Let us run the race marked out for us with perseverance  
**Verse:** Heb. 12:1c "...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,"

### Script

**Show host:** Welcome to Judge (*Judy*) Traffic Court. Today's show will feature our defendant, Patty Parking. Patty Parking has been ticketed for parking in a "no parking" zone. Now let's join our show.

**Bailiff:** All rise. The (*date*) session of Traffic Court is now in session, the Honorable Judge (*Judy*) presiding. (*Judge walks in*) You may be seated. Your Honor, our plaintiff today is Patty Parking.

**Judge:** You have been charged with parking in a "no parking" zone. Can you read, Ms. Parking?

**Patty:** Yes, Your Honor. Of course I can read.

**Judge:** Am I correct in assuming that there was a "No Parking" sign in the area?

**Patty:** Yes, Your Honor.

**Judge:** Hmm. There was a "No Parking" sign, you were able to read it....I guess you're now going to give me your excuse... (*sighs and nods head as if expressing her weariness at ANOTHER excuse*). Ok, Ms. Parking. Go ahead and explain your "special" circumstances that will excuse this behavior...

**Patty:** Thank you, Your Honor. You must know, Your Honor, how wearisome this highway can be after a while. Me and my little car had been chugging along for some time. It seemed so difficult to continue "pressing on". I really hadn't planned on parking for long. I just thought that I would watch the traffic, listen to some music,, maybe read a book for a while. A girl needs to RELAX, you know.

**Judge:** Surely, Ms. Parking, even though your name is "parking"-- you must know that the road to eternal life is not a spectator sport. Your job is to persevere. If you needed to stop, you know that the Lord has put rest areas at regular intervals along the road and that you can always turn to Him for refreshing along the way. His word tells us to "Reach forward to those things which are before—to press on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

**Patty:** Well, I just thought I had found a good place to park and rest a while...

**Judge:** Doesn't the Word say "Lean not on our own understanding, but in all our ways acknowledge Him and **He** shall direct our paths?"

**Patty:** Yes, but I was ready to stop and be entertained for a change.

**Judge:** Ohhhhh. Now we're getting down to the nitty gritty.

**Patty:** I was just exhausted on this particular day. I was tired from turning the other cheek and pursuing holiness and letting my light shine and being a witness and encouraging others and forbearing and forgiving and submitting to my husband. For once, I just wanted it to be about me. I pulled off to the side of the road and just stopped. I just meant to take a little break. I wanted to think about "ME" for a change. I didn't think it could hurt.

**Judge:** So, you are basically stating that you purposefully and willfully disregarded the "No Parking" sign. You understand our travel manual tells us to "Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not ignore it." Officer Con Viction, do you recall the events as well?

**Officer Con Viction:** Why yes Your Honor, this is a particularly busy piece of road, the shoulder is narrow, and Ms. Parking did endanger herself by stopping. In fact, she didn't see it, but there was great danger nearby.

**Patty:** (*surprised*) There was? What?

**Officer Con Viction:** Our adversary, the devil, was in the area, like a roaring lion, seeking whom he might devour, as he always is. When Ms. Parking parked, she became easy prey. She was no longer moving vigilantly along the road to eternal life. With her attention on herself, she could not be watching and praying. With her eyes on herself, she made herself vulnerable to enemy attacks.

**Patty:** Oh, my!! Oh, my!! And I wasn't even aware that he was near! You mean he could devour me right there on the road to eternal life??

**Officer Con Viction:** Not if you had been obeying the road signs, Ms. Parking. But when you decided to "take a break" as you said, you invited trouble. He would love to pile up your car with besetting sins that would delay or prevent further progress. In fact, I already pointed out some dangerous attitudes that you have acquired since this parking in a no parking zone mess. Not to mention the activities he could distract you with when you are desiring just to please yourself!!

**Patty:** (*speaking to judge*) That's true--the officer is right about that. I no sooner stopped my vehicle, thinking that I deserved a break, when I started considering how I was actually one of the better travelers on this road. I started being critical of some of the drivers passing me. The big (18-wheeler or semi-truck) of pride nearly blew me into the ravine below. Not only that, but the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches approached so rapidly that I might never have been able to get back on the road. I began to panic, I knew that it was going to take a major push to get me pressing on again. In the flesh, I wouldn't be able to do it. Luckily, that's just the time Officer Con Viction stopped by. He opened my eyes to what was happening to me, parked there by the highway.

**Judge:** The road map tells us in 2 Tim 4:18 "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom." (*NIV*).

**Patty:** And that He has your honor. I am sorry for my actions. I am certain that my flesh is weak. But my trust is in Him. And greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. I know that it is this promise that I shall hold fast to as I persevere on the road to eternal life.

**Judge:** It sounds as if you have learned some important lessons. Officer Con Viction, do you have anything to add?

**Officer Con Viction:** No your honor, I am just glad that I was able to help this young lady get back on the road to Eternal Life and that adversary didn't gain a foothold in her life.

**Judge:** Do you have any additional testimony Ms. Parking?

**Patty:** No, Your Honor.

**Judge:** Well, the court will suspend sentencing, because Ms. Parking is already suffering her "punishment". Parking almost always caused back-sliding—cars on the road to eternal life just aren't made for parking. When you stop pressing on, you are really sliding backwards. She is going to really have to make some effort to regain lost ground. She must die to herself – get up on that altar again, knowing that she has acquired some attitudes and habits that need to be changed by giving them totally to Him.

**Patty:** I'm willing, Your Honor

**Judge:** Court is adjourned. (*bangs gavel*)

**Show Host:** Well, we've certainly learned some lessons today with Patty Parking. When we stop pressing onward and our eyes get off the road and onto ourselves, we're apt to miss some important road signs, and put ourselves into a dangerous position. Luckily, Officer Con Viction keeps a pretty good eye on us—we just have to listen to him!