

DOUBLE TEAM

[Scooter enters wearing a glove and tossing a baseball.]

Beth: [enters] Hey, Scooter! How did tryouts go?

Scooter: [unsure] OK, I guess.

Beth: Not so good?

Scooter: I think I played OK. My pitching was decent and I hit a couple into the outfield.

Beth: Then what's wrong?

Scooter: The other guys, like Jeremy and Andrew, kind of teamed up and ignored me.

Beth: Ouch!

Scooter: Yeah. It's hard to get psyched about playing when it seems like nobody's on your side.

Beth: It reminds me of this guy Nehemiah in the Bible. God gave him this big job to do—rebuild the wall in his home city—but when he got there, it seemed like he was all alone.

Scooter: Yuck! I would have just turned around and said, "Forget about it."

Beth: That's not how Nehemiah reacted. You know what he did first thing?

Scooter: What?

Beth: He talked to God about it. Even though Nehemiah felt alone, he knew God was on his side.

Scooter: What happened?

Beth: With God's help, Nehemiah convinced the people to start working together—and he got the job done!

Scooter: That's a cool story, but I don't see how it helps me.

Beth: Scooter, if God wants you on this team, he'll help you make a difference—even if you feel alone at first. When other people seem to be against you, God is on your side.

Scooter: That does make me feel a little better.

Beth: Would it make you feel better to play a game of catch?

Scooter: Yeah, maybe.

Beth: Would it make you feel better to know *I'm* on your side?

Scooter: Definitely! Thanks, Beth.

Beth: That's what friends are for. C'mon! We've got some work to do.

[Both exit.]