

POWER SOURCE

[Scooter enters and slumps down in a chair.]

Beth: [enters] Hi, Scooter!

Scooter: Hi, Beth.

Beth: Is something wrong?

Scooter: [could be holding face in hands glumly] Yeah. I keep messing up. I CAN'T control my words with my mom and little sister. I CAN'T be nice to kids I don't like at school. And I CAN'T quit playing bad video games.

Beth: You're right. You can't.

Scooter: [perks up] What? That's not very nice!

Beth: Well, you can't do those things.

Scooter: Now I feel even worse! I can't do ANYTHING right.

Beth: I wouldn't give up quite yet.

Scooter: What do you mean?

Beth: What I'm saying is you CAN'T do those good things that you know you're supposed to ... at least not on your own. But God can give you the power to do them.

Scooter: Oh ... why didn't you say that in the first place?

Beth: Because you were making a good point! No matter how hard we try to live for God, we won't be able to succeed without his power. Even Jesus needed God's power to do miracles on Earth.

Scooter: So you're saying there is hope for me?

Beth: Definitely! God will help you to control your words. He'll give you the strength to be nice to your enemies. And he can help you have self-control to keep away from bad video games.

Scooter: Phew! I was beginning to worry!

Beth: The best part is, when you do things with God's help, you'll be much more successful.

Scooter: So then I can say: I CAN?

Beth: Yes, you can!

Scooter: I can SAY, "I can," or I actually can?

Beth: [gives Scooter a look] Both.

Scooter: It's good to know that someone more powerful than I am can help me with hard things.

Beth: Yep. Now let's get going on that can-do attitude. You can start by helping your friend figure out her math homework.

Scooter: [grinning] I think I can handle that.

[Both exit.]