

CHECKLIST

[Scooter enters with a list, possibly on a clipboard, and a pen.]

Scooter: [checks item off list] Paid Mom a compliment. CHECK!

Beth: [enters] Hi, Scooter! Ready to work on that science project?

Scooter: Just a minute, Beth. I'm taking care of some things.

Beth: OK ...

Scooter: [checks more items off list] Raked Mrs. Wilson's yard. CHECK! Offered my little sister the last Pop-Tart. CHECK! Read my Bible! CHECK, CHECK!

Beth: What's with the list, Scooter?

Scooter: I'm checking off all the good things I did today.

Beth: Hmm. It's great to do good things, but ...

Scooter: [checks a few others] Fed the cat. CHECK! Turned in my homework. CHECK! Things are looking pretty good!

Beth: Why exactly did you make this list?

Scooter: It's like this: God loves me a lot, right?

Beth: Totally!

Scooter: So I want to make sure I'm doing everything I can so that I deserve his love.

Beth: Scooter, none of us DESERVES God's love. He gives it to us freely because of what his Son Jesus did on the cross.

Scooter: You mean it doesn't matter how many good things you do?

Beth: Nope. He loves you just the same.

Scooter: What about bad things?

Beth: The bad things we do don't make God love us any less either.

Scooter: Phew! That's a relief! The checklist of bad things would be A LOT longer.

Beth: Part of being a follower of Jesus is accepting his love for us and knowing that we can't earn it.

Scooter: I guess I don't need this checklist anymore.

Beth: What's the next thing on the list?

Scooter: Work with Beth to finish science project.

Beth: You should probably do that one.

Scooter: You're right. Maybe we can use this list to keep track of our statistics.

Beth: Check!

[Both laugh and exit.]