

We've just heard a conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. They share in a unique exchange.

We've all had the experience of listening to someone's monologue. The person talks and talks and talks without any interaction. We've had the experience in family relationships where reporting takes place: who's doing what, when, what needs doing; who's going where. We've had the experience of being talked at: on occasion, lectures and homilies can have that tone.

A conversation is an experience of a different kind. A conversation involves:

- 1) each person listening to the other
- 2) each person speaking with the other
- 3) each person being present and attentive to the other.

Jesus and the Samaritan woman share in a true conversation. They listen to one another. They speak to one another. They are present and very attentive to one another. As a result of their conversation, Jesus and the woman learn about each other. The door has been opened for them to relate in a new way. And that conversation makes all the difference in the woman's life. She is never again the same.

As we continue on our journey through Lent, keep in mind that prayer can be conversation with God, with Jesus, with the Holy Spirit.

My sisters and brothers: This week enjoy one of God's choicest blessings....the pleasure of a conversation!