

# Asking Instead of Telling

## Lesson Plan—Adults/Youth

### Supplies:

- Handout: Characteristics of Good Questions

### Procedure:

- **Think about this:** Asking questions was at the center of Jesus' ministry. The Gospels record 307 questions Jesus asked. In turn, people asked Jesus 183 questions. But he answered only three of those questions.

When Jesus met the woman at the well, he initiated his relationship with her by asking a question: Will you give me a drink? This question launched a conversation that eventually prompted her to return to her village and ask her people a question: Could this be the Messiah? And, as a result, many Samaritans believed

In the book *Nine Arts of Spiritual Conversations*, Schaller quotes Henry Kimsey-House: *When you are curious, you are no longer in the role of expert. Instead, you are . . . exploring the world with others, not superimposing your world on theirs.* So, ask good questions, Schaller says, to build connections.

- **Do this:** Read the handout: Characteristics of Good Questions. Think of someone you don't know well—a neighbor, a co-worker, a fan in the stands at a ball game. Write a question you could ask.

