

The Absence of Gracious Speech Today

We face an angry nation. Often we notice that 'THEY' use such nasty, divisive, belittling speech.

The problem, it isn't just 'them', it is US.

Christians are supposed to be 'lights unto the world'.

One of the main ways we shine is through communication - talking to people.

→ Words have power

Words have Great Power

Prov. 10:11, 21; 25:11

Words in fact hold much power.

"The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence." (Prov. 10:11).

"The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of sense." (Prov. 10:21).

Proverbs 25:11 *Like* apples of gold in settings of silver Is a word spoken in right circumstances.

→ **NOT** only power for **GOOD** – but to **destroy!**

Words have power to DESTROY

Words however also have power to destroy people:

"With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor, but by knowledge the righteous are delivered" (Prov. 11:9).

Destroy ones reputation

Destroy ones very will (abuse – intimidation – demeaning)

→ WE are to be DIFFERENT

***As the people of a
gracious God, our
speech then is to
be gracious.***

Col. 4:6

As the people of a gracious God, our speech then is to be gracious.

"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person" (Col. 4:6).

L&N: to show kindness to someone, with the implication of graciousness on the part of the one showing such kindness—'to show kindness, to manifest graciousness toward, kindness, graciousness, grace.'

Gracious Speech:
kindness
Self-control
Thoughtful
empathy

Gracious speech would be full of
kindness,
self-control,
thoughtfulness,
and empathy.

Fruit of the Spirit:
love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control.

Gracious speech is to be filled with and produce the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Gal. 5:

***Gracious speech is
also absent of*** anger,
wrath, malice, slander,
deceit, and obscenities
(Eph. 4:29).

Gracious speech is also absent of anger, wrath, malice, slander, deceit,
and obscenities (Eph. 4:29).

*Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is
good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.*

Jesus dire warning: Matt. 5:21-22

The WARNING by Jesus – Matt. 5:21-22 - particularly in ‘name-calling’ and ‘labeling’...

21 “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’

22 “But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

→ *The golden RULE Matt. 7:12*

Rather: speak from the Golden Rule

Matt. 7:12

Golden Rule – Matthew 7:12

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

James and the Tongue (ch. 3)

POWER of words – 5-6
DIFFICULTY of control – 7-8
SOURCE = the heart – 9-12

James – and the TONGUE – James 3:5-12

The POWER of words – 5-6

The DIFFICULTY of control – 7-8

The SOURCE is the HEART – 9-12

Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks...

→ James 4:11

James 4:11

James 4:11 – do NOT speak evil against one another!

→ James 1:19

James 1:19

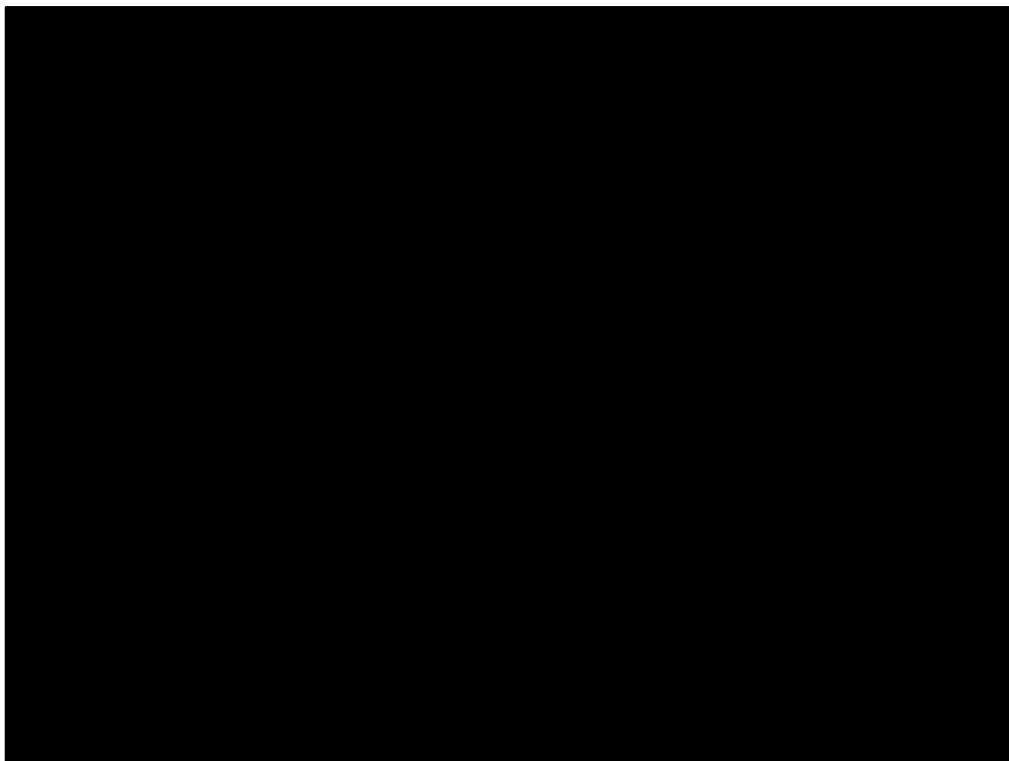
Quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath. James 1:19

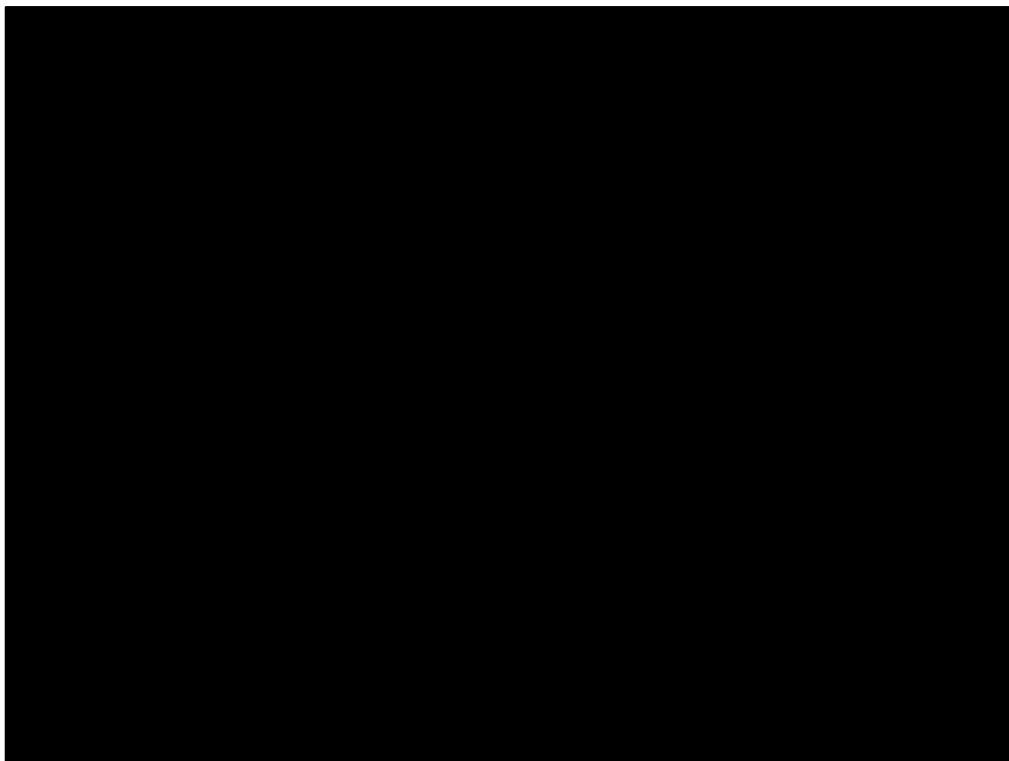
2 ears to hear twice as much as we talk with one mouth...

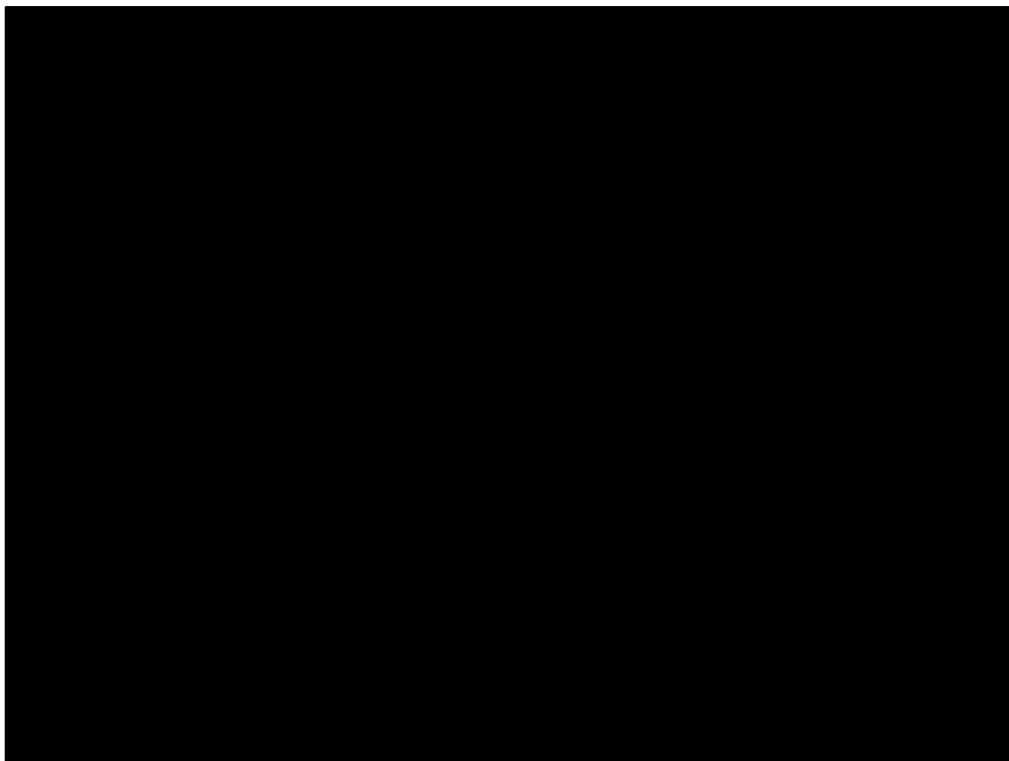
How do you talk when you are challenged in your beliefs?

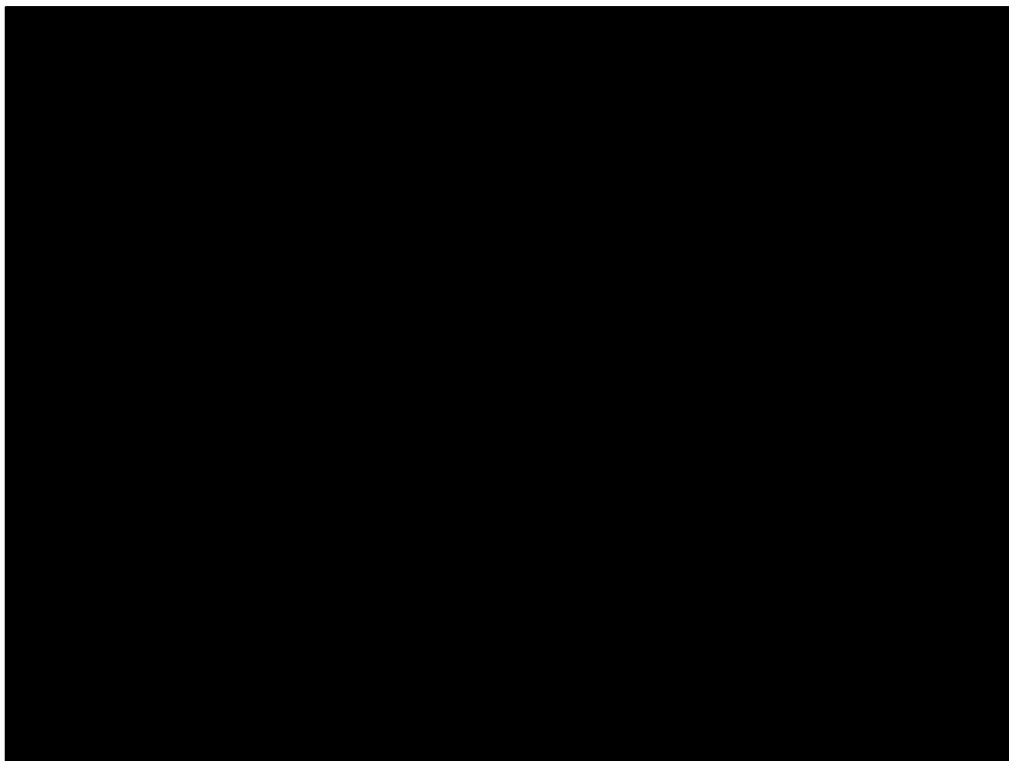
How do you speak when you become angry?

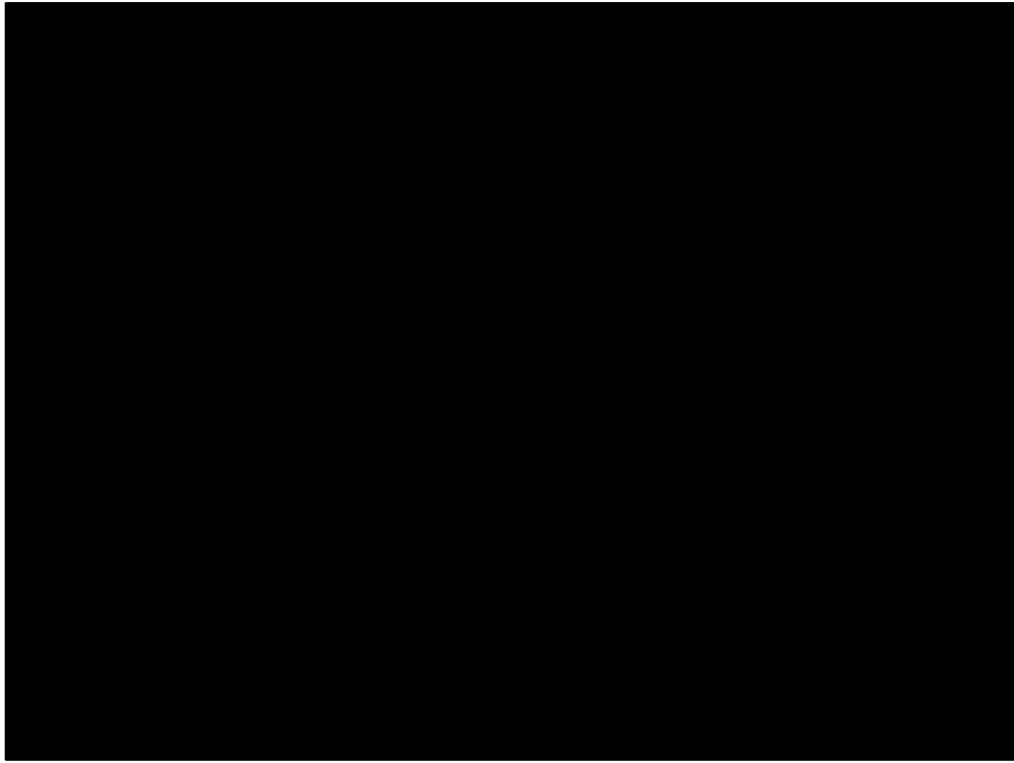
Is God glorified and exalted by our conversation?

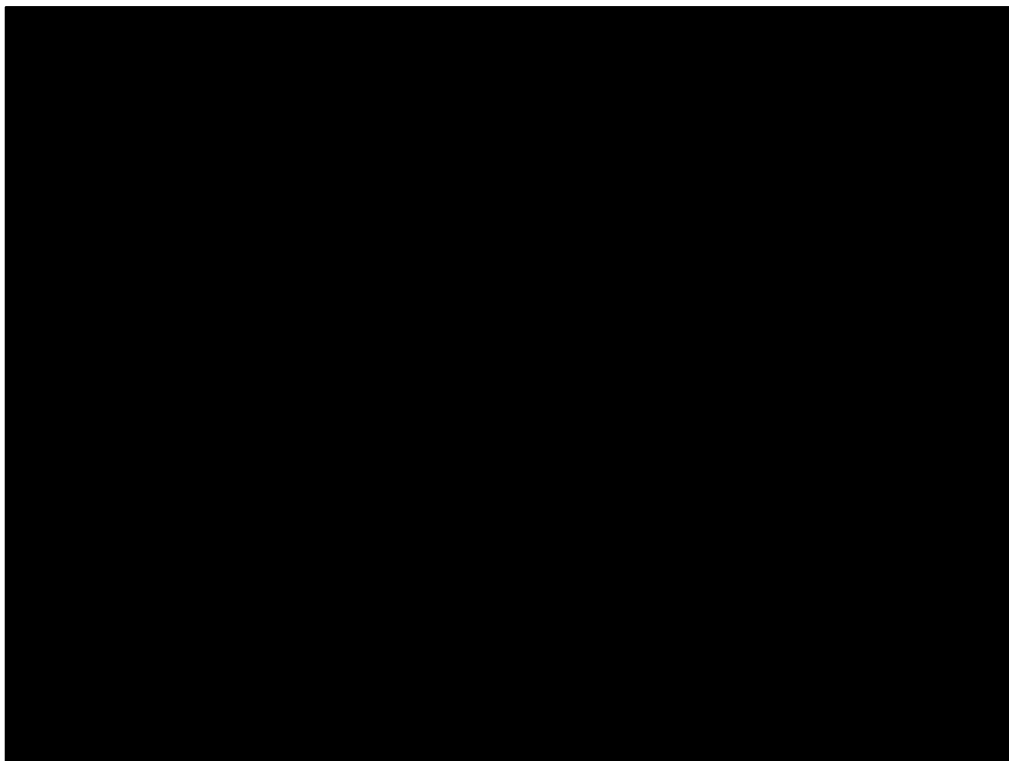


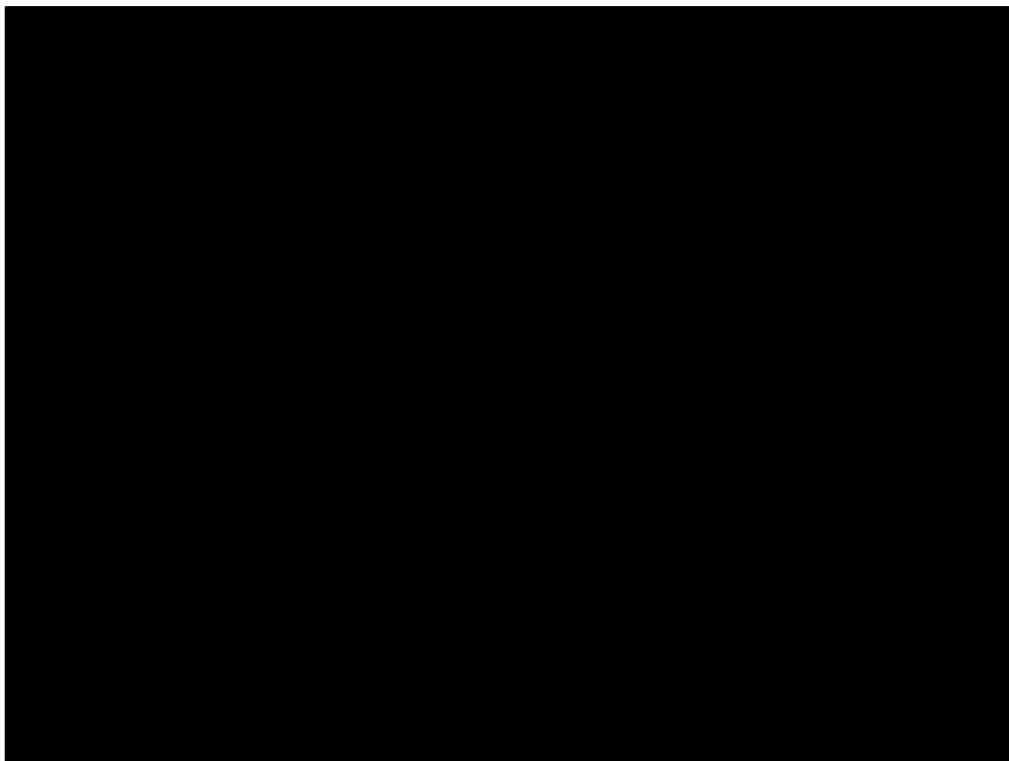


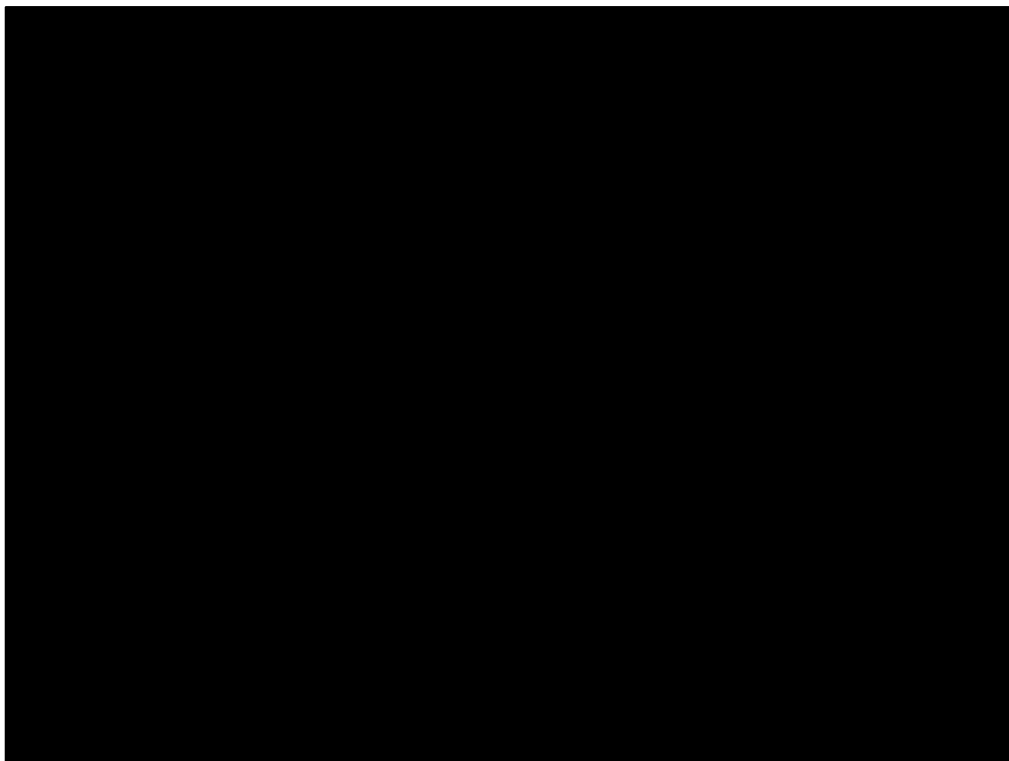


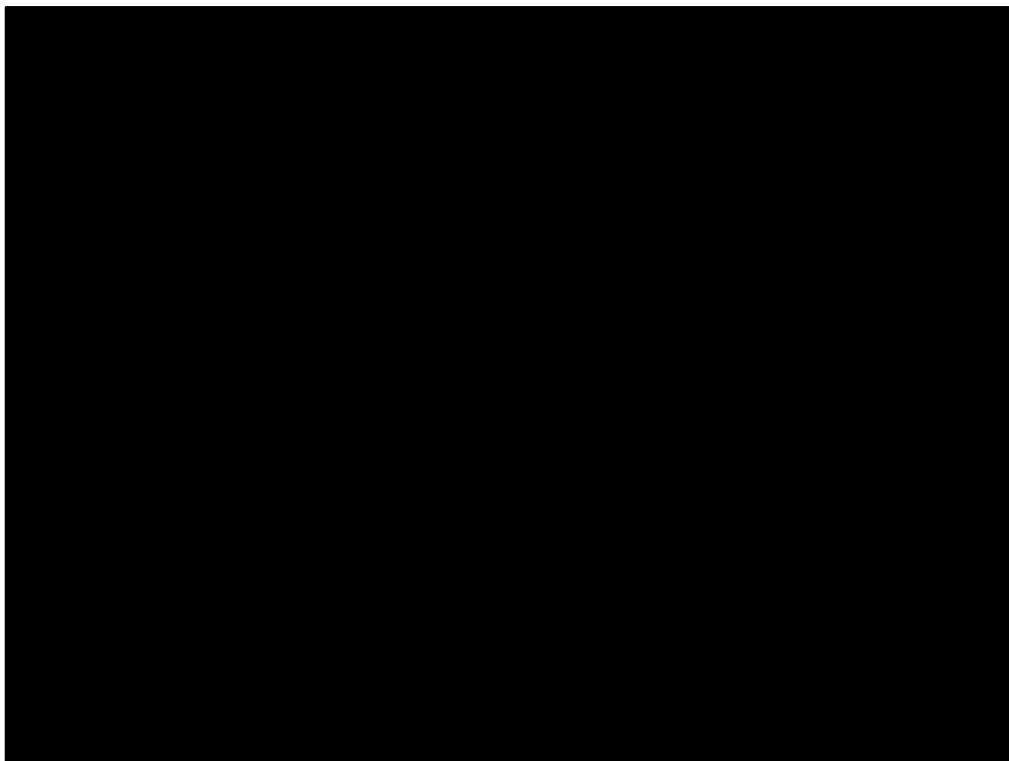


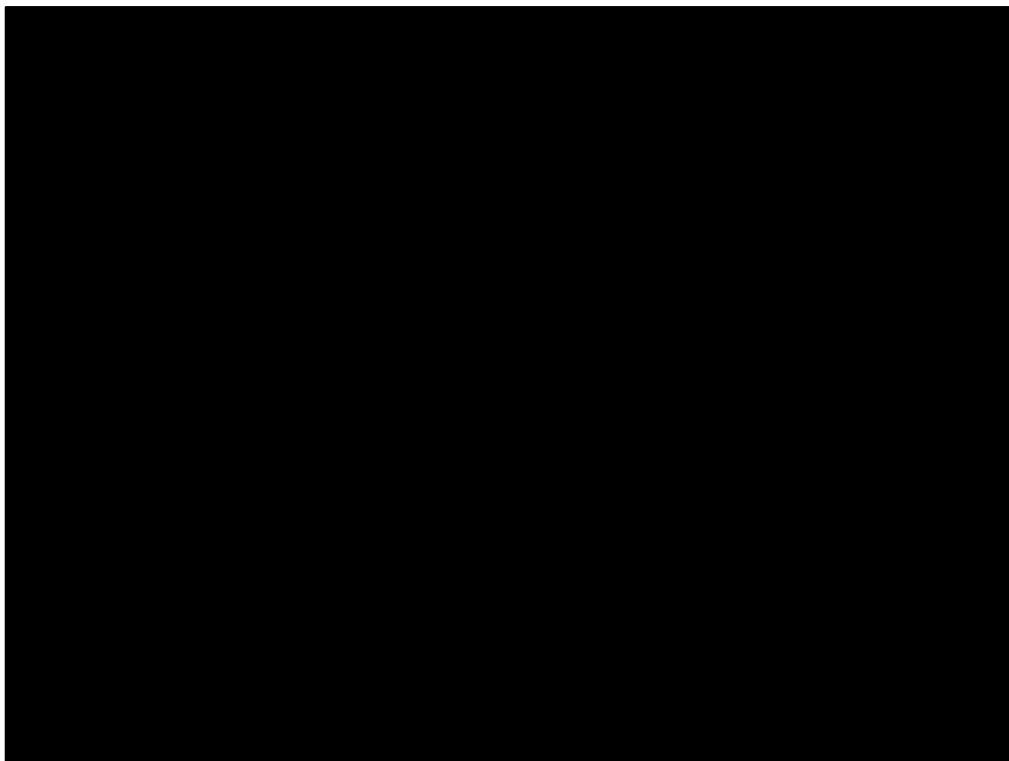


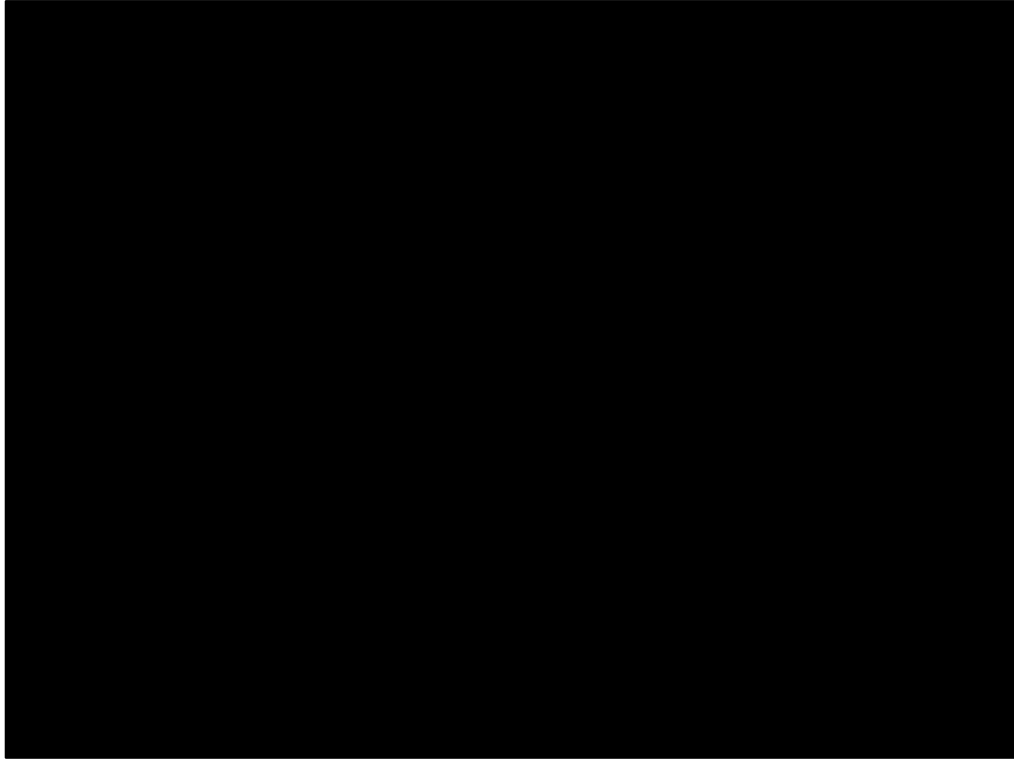












Our Foundation:

