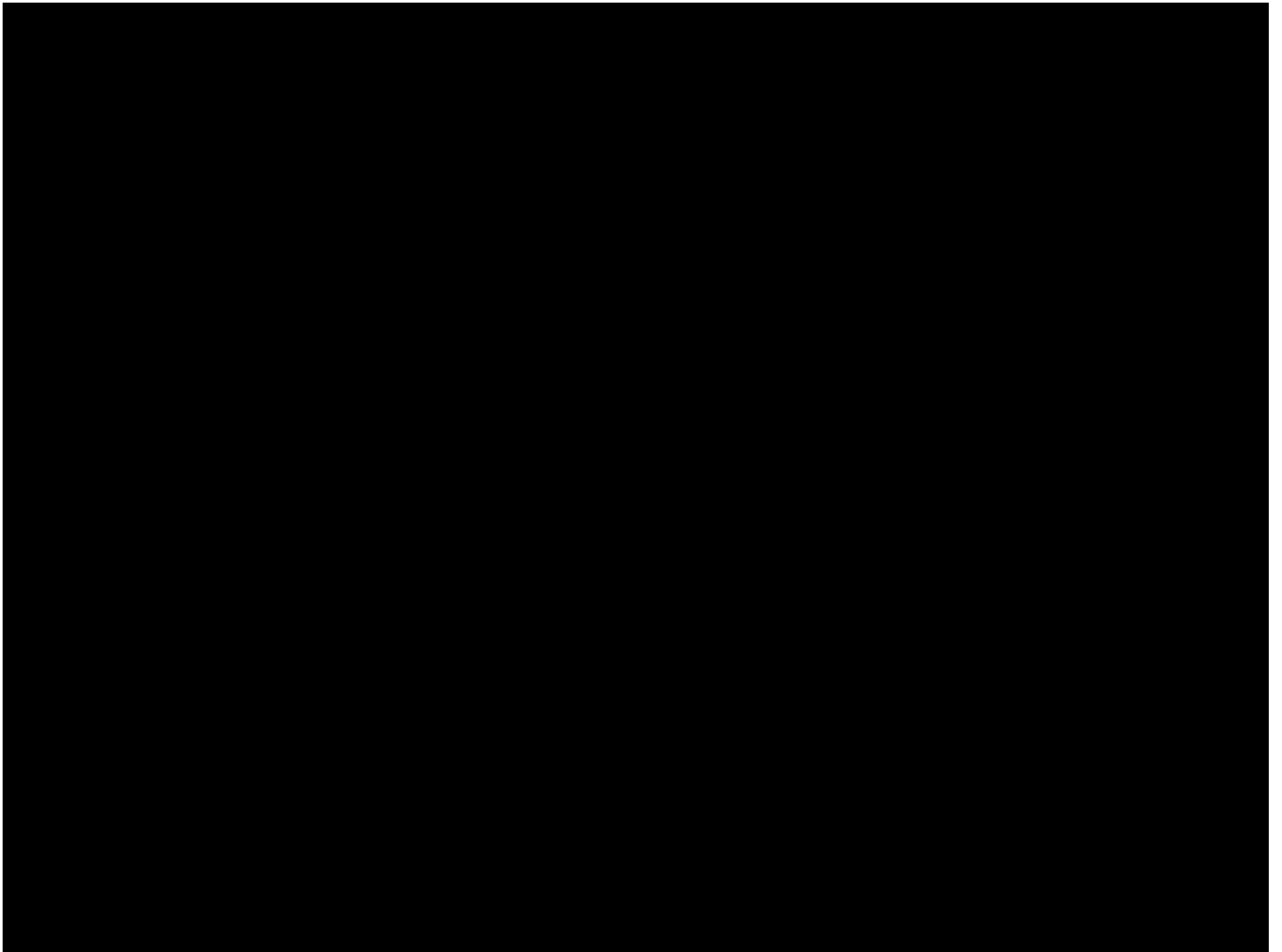


ACTS:
A HISTORY BOOK
Living **IN YOU.**

VINTAGE IDEAS FOR LIVING TODAY

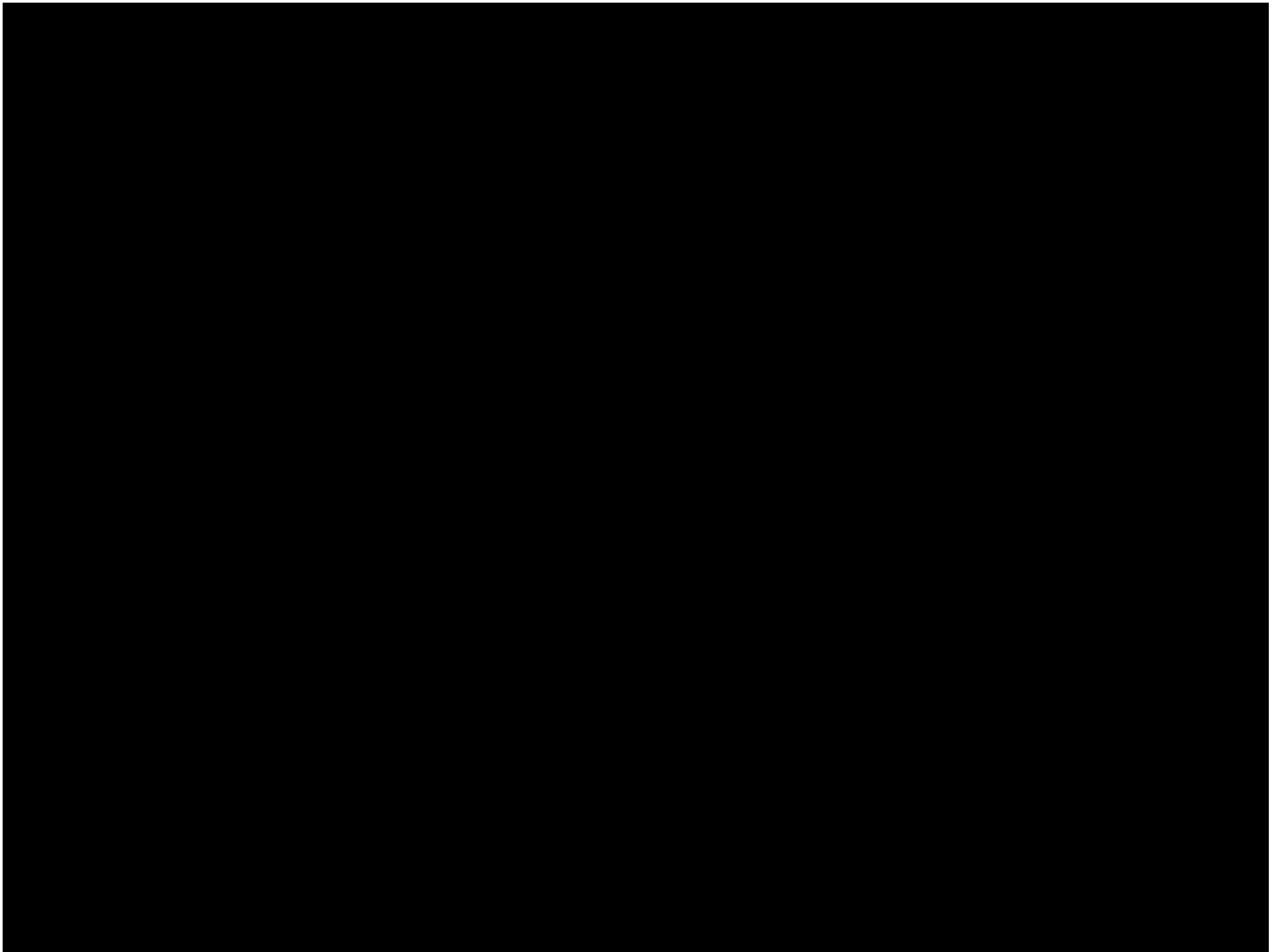
THE APOSTLE PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY



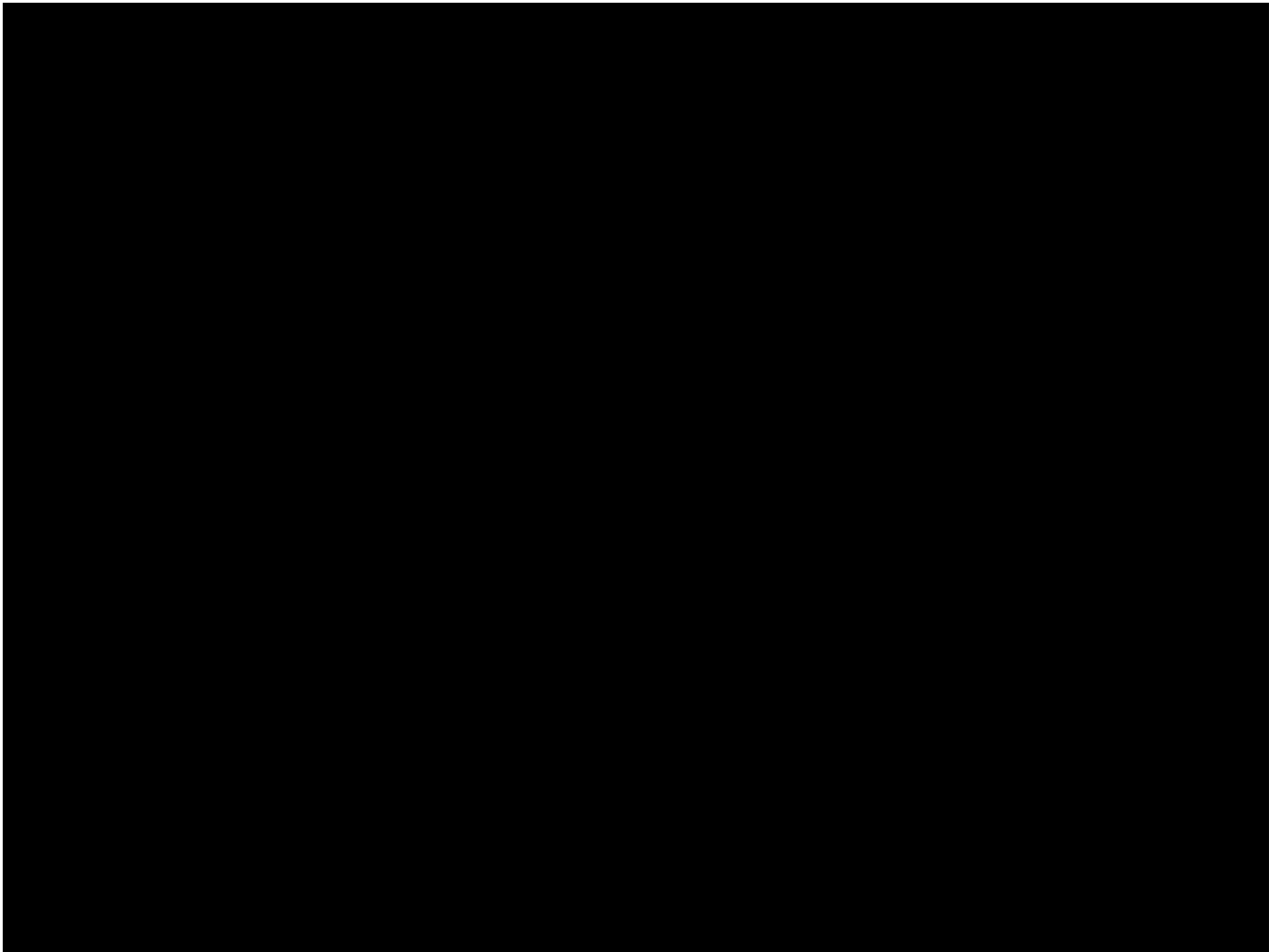


***I. Paul shares Christ in both
Word and action***

In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed 10 and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk. Acts 14:8-10



Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:43-47



II. Paul shares Christ by showing them that their belief system isn't working for them.

But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: 15 “Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news,

Acts 14:14,15

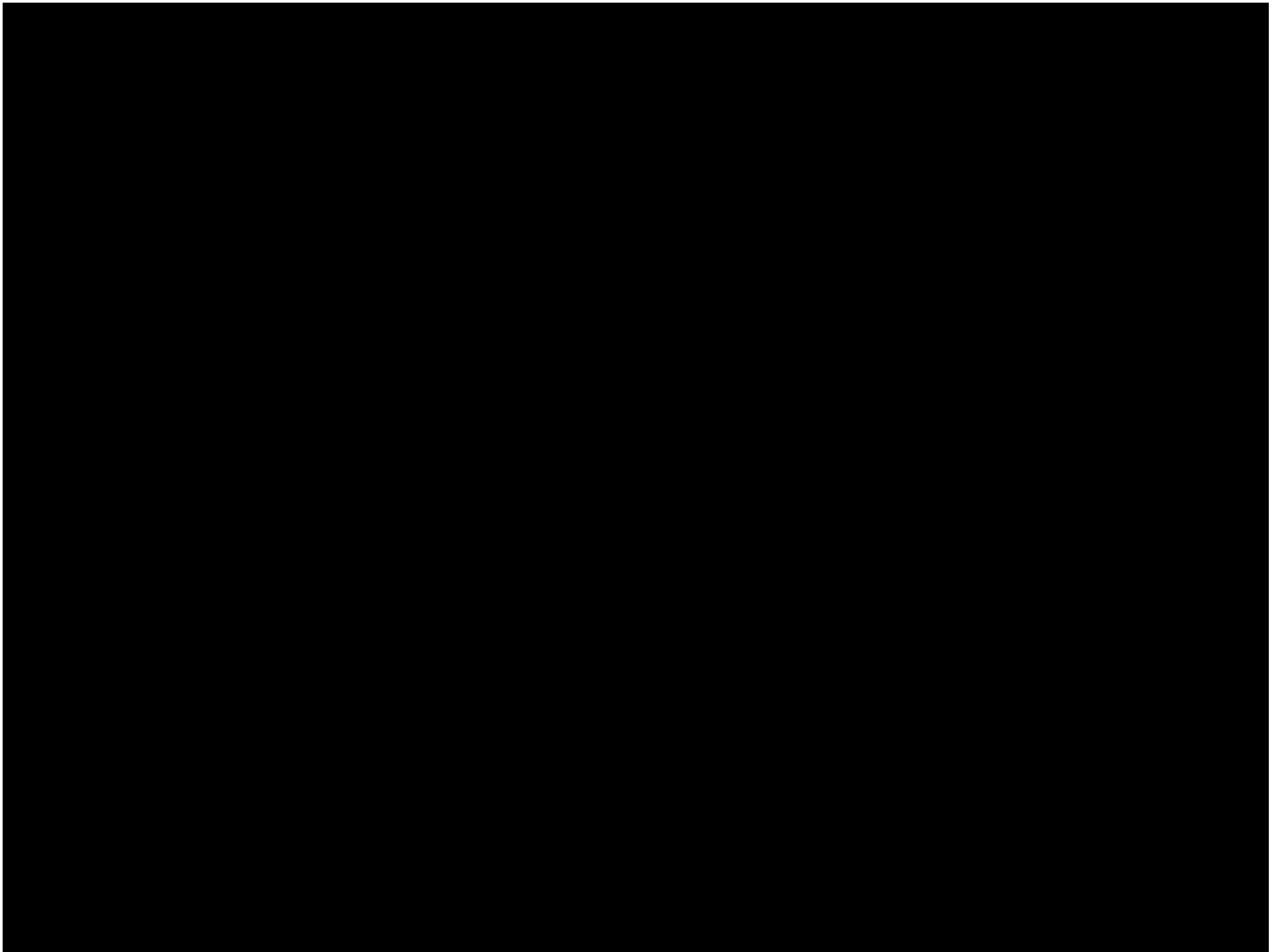
...telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. 16 In the past, he let all nations go their own way. 17 Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

Acts 14:15-17

I want you to know that
through Jesus the forgiveness
of sins is proclaimed to you.

39 Through him everyone who
believes is set free from every
sin, a justification you were not
able to obtain under the law of
Moses. Acts 13:38,39

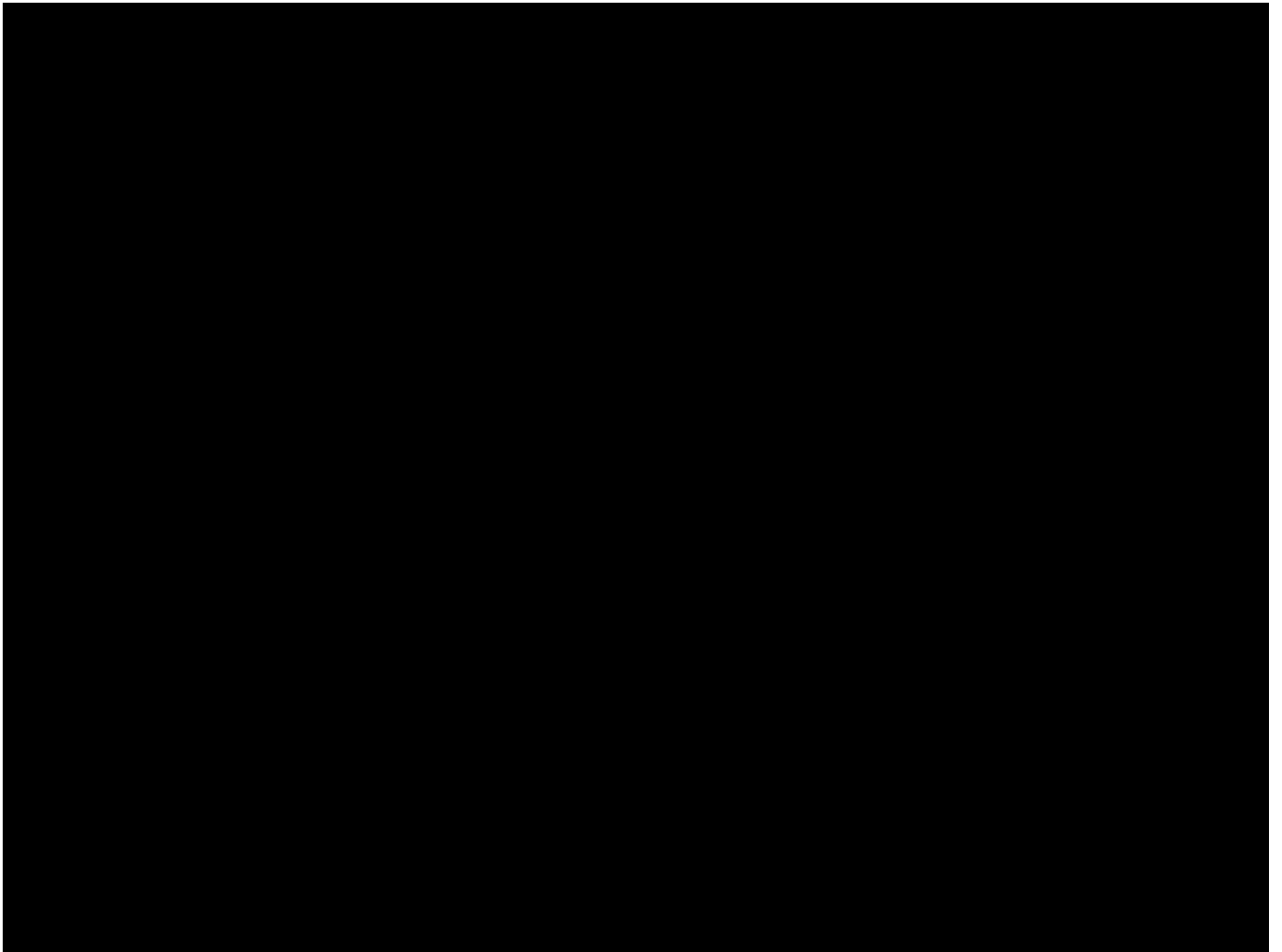
“Friends, why are you doing this?
We too are only human, like you.
We are bringing you good news,
telling you to turn from these
worthless things to the living God,
who made the heavens and the
earth and the sea and everything in
them. Acts 14:14,15



**Key point: Paul
always starts where
people are at in their
lives.**

To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. 23 I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

1 Corinthians 9:20-22

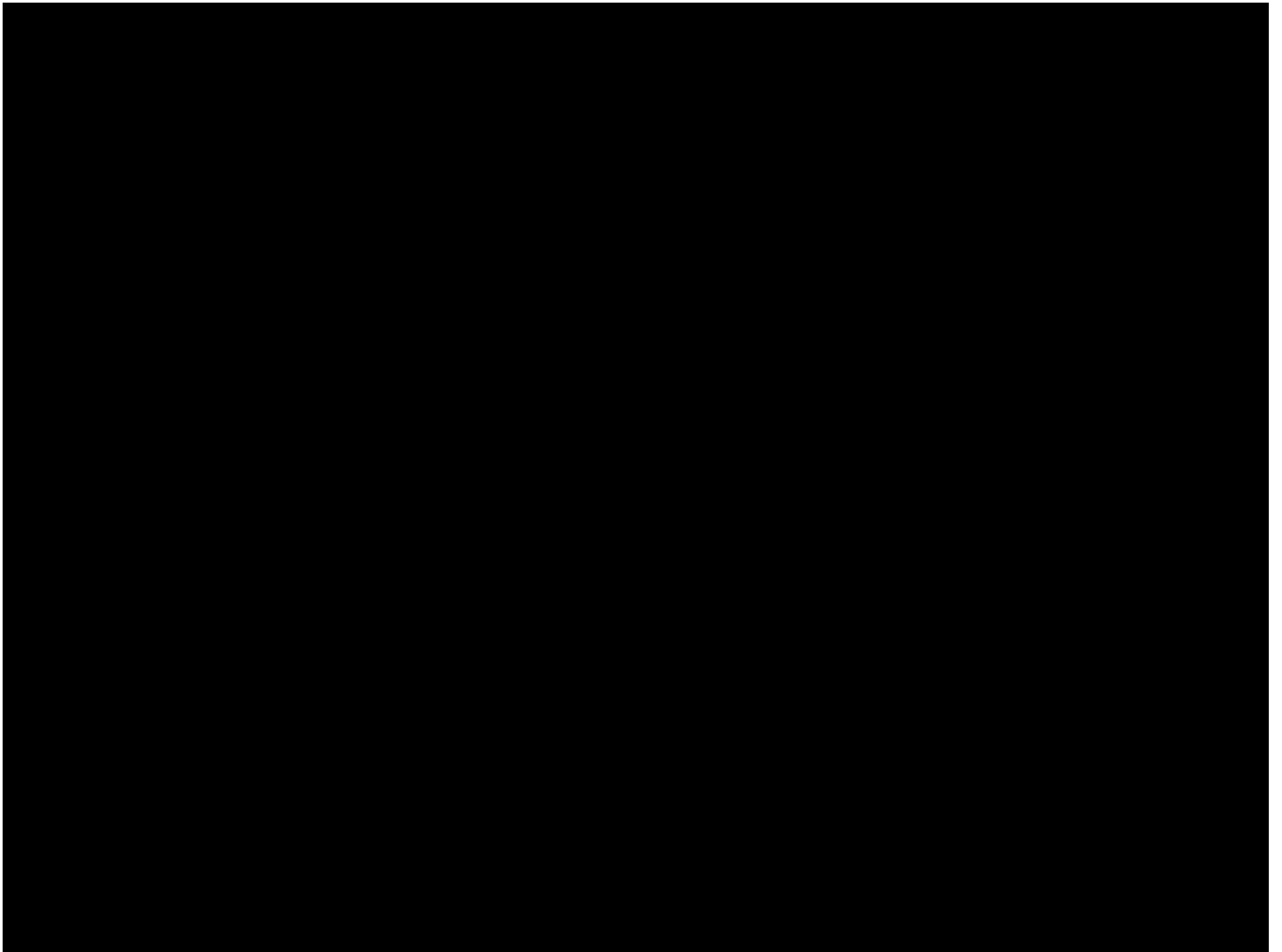


***III. You share Christ by
enduring the difficulties***

They (later) preached the gospel in Derbe and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, 22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.

Acts 14:21,22

***What Paul is saying is that
no one grows into
Christlikeness
without some hardships.***



***I think Paul is also saying
that how we handle our
own hardships will greatly
impact whether or not
other people find the
kingdom of God.***

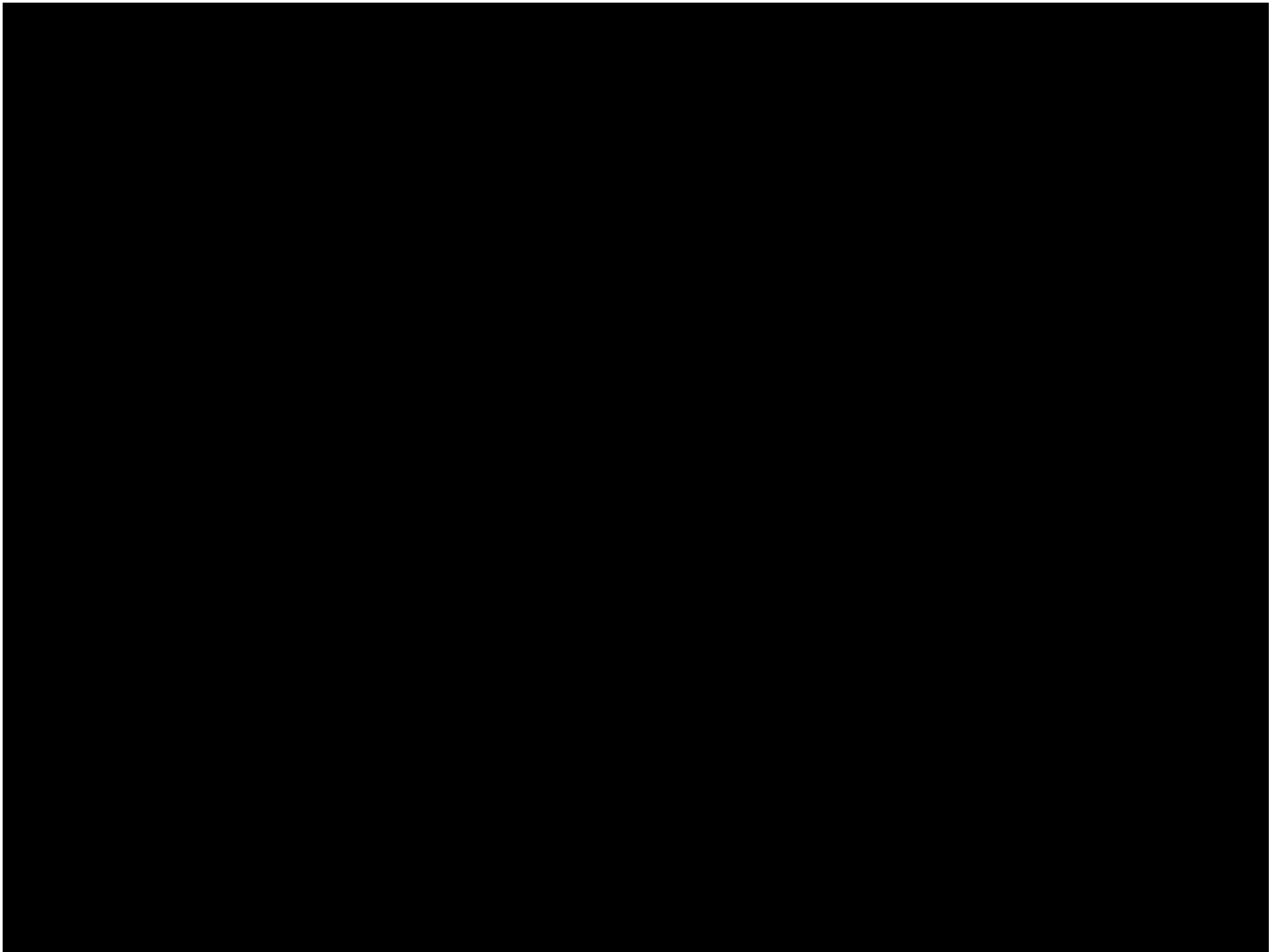
***IV. You share Christ by
fulfilling the deepest
longings of the human
heart***

When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker.

13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

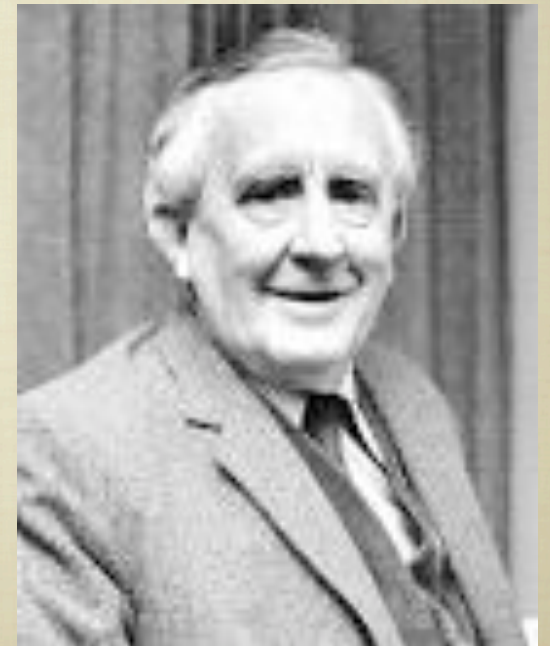
Acts 14:11-13





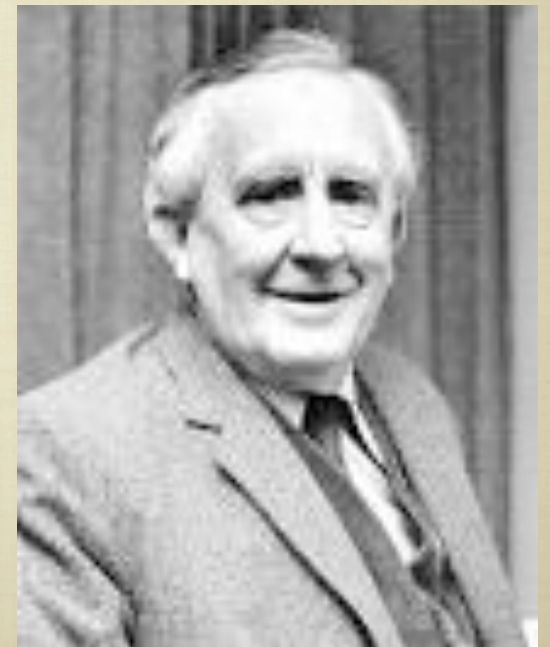
1. Human beings want to
escape time and death.

–JRR Tolkien
“On Fairy Stories”



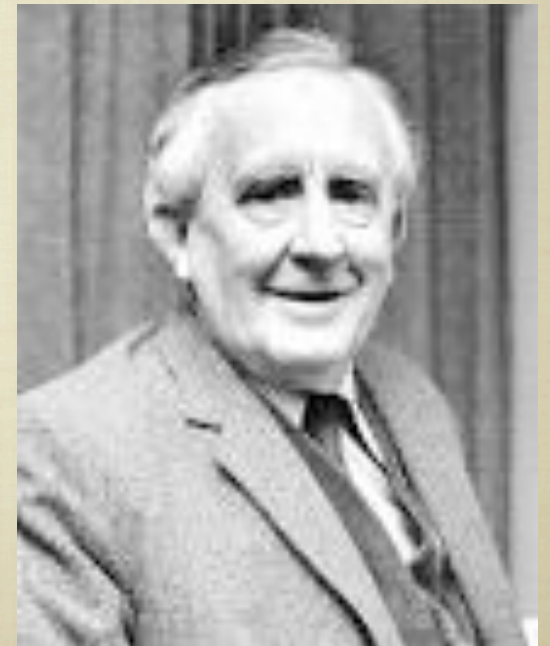
2. We're utterly
fascinated by
communicating with
non-humans.

–JRR Tolkien,
“On Fairy Stories”



3. That once we get a
love that heals us we'll
never have to lose it.

–JRR Tolkien,
“On Fairy Stories”



4. We want to see the triumph of good over evil.

–JRR Tolkien,
“On Fairy Stories”

