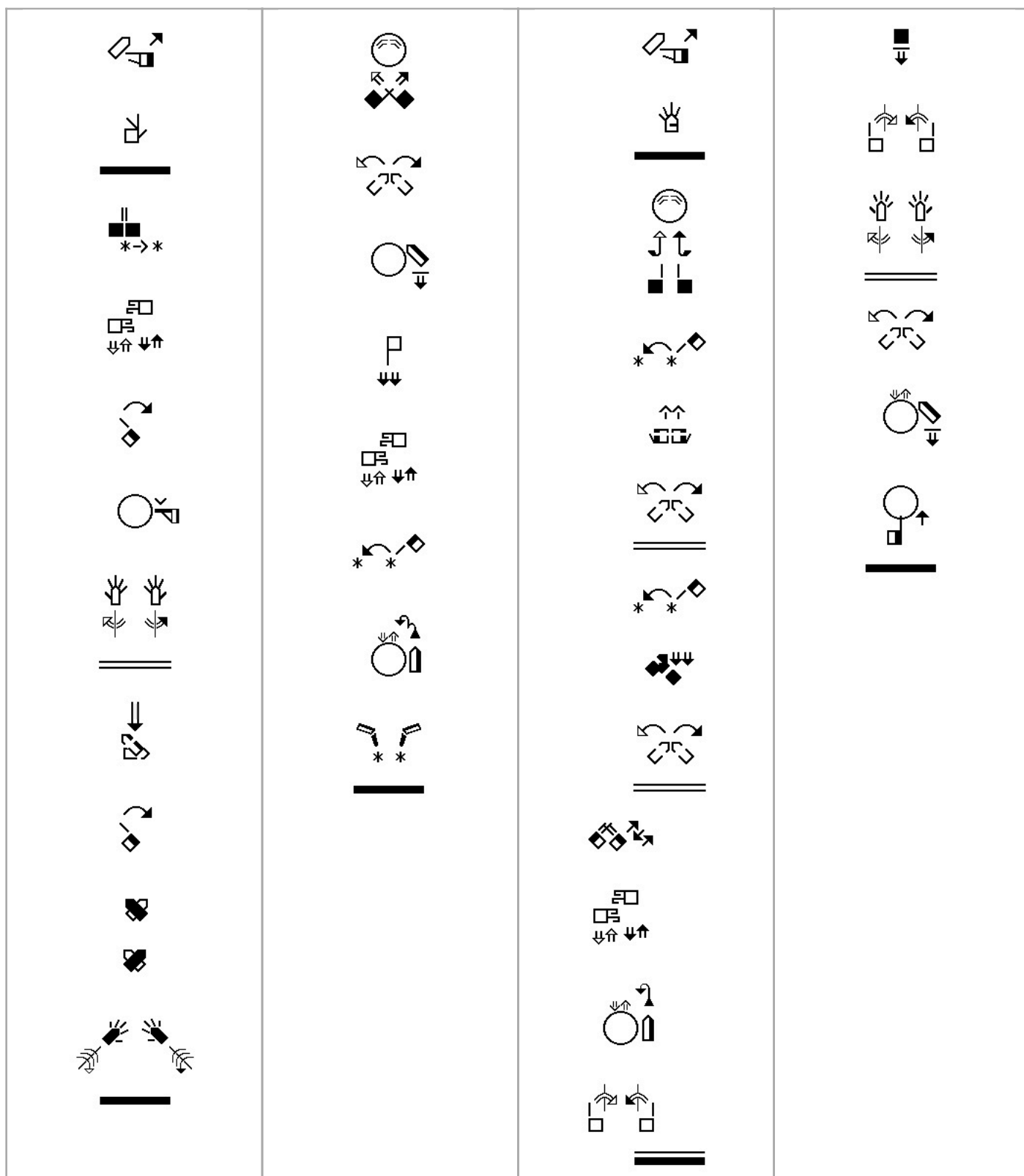


Chapter 3. Finally, when we could stand it no longer, we decided to stay alone in Athens, Verse 2. and we sent Timothy to visit you. He is our brother and God's co-worker in proclaiming the Good News of Christ. We sent him to strengthen you, to encourage you in your faith,

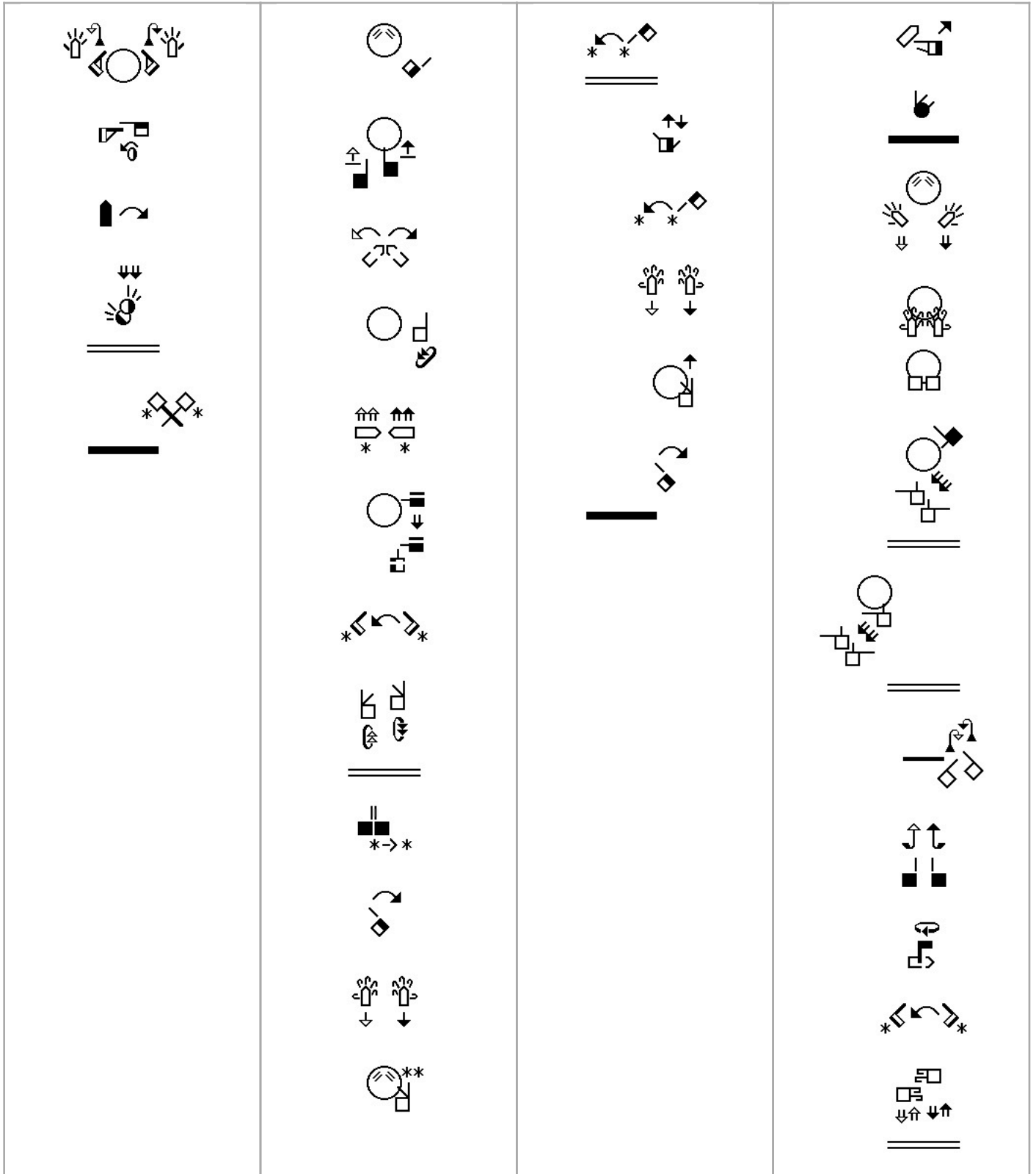
NLT



Verse 3. and to keep you from being shaken by the troubles you were going through. But you know that we are destined for such troubles. Verse 4. Even while were were with you, we warned you that troubles would soon come -- and they did, as you well know. NLT

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Verse 5. That is why, when I could bear it no longer, I sent Timothy to find out whether your faith was still strong. I was afraid that the tempter had gotten the best of you and that our work had been useless. Verse 6. But now Timothy has just returned, bringing us good
 NLT



news about your faith and love. He reports that you always remember our visit with joy and that you want to see us as much as we want to see you. Verse 7. So we have been greatly encouraged in the midst of our troubles
 NLT

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and suffering, dear brothers and sisters, because you have remained strong in your faith. Verse 8. It gives us new life to know that you are standing firm in the Lord. Verse 9. How we thank God for you! Because of you we have great joy as we enter God's presence. NLT

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Verse 10. Night and day we pray earnestly for you, asking God to let us see you again to fill the gaps in your faith. Verse 11. May God our Father and our Lord Jesus bring us to you very soon. Verse 12. And may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow,
NLT

<p>A vertical column of ASL signs. It starts with a square with a cross, followed by a circle with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. Below these are several signs involving hand movements, including a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. The column ends with a hand with a cross and a hand with a cross.</p>	<p>A vertical column of ASL signs. It starts with a hand with a cross, followed by a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. Below these are several signs involving hand movements, including a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. The column ends with a hand with a cross and a hand with a cross.</p>	<p>A vertical column of ASL signs. It starts with a hand with a cross, followed by a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. Below these are several signs involving hand movements, including a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. The column ends with a hand with a cross and a hand with a cross.</p>	<p>A vertical column of ASL signs. It starts with a hand with a cross, followed by a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. Below these are several signs involving hand movements, including a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, a hand with a cross, and a hand with a cross. The column ends with a hand with a cross and a hand with a cross.</p>
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just as our love for you overflows. Verse 13. May he, as a result, make your hearts strong, blameless, and holy as you stand before God our Father when our Lord Jesus comes again with all his holy people. Amen. NLT