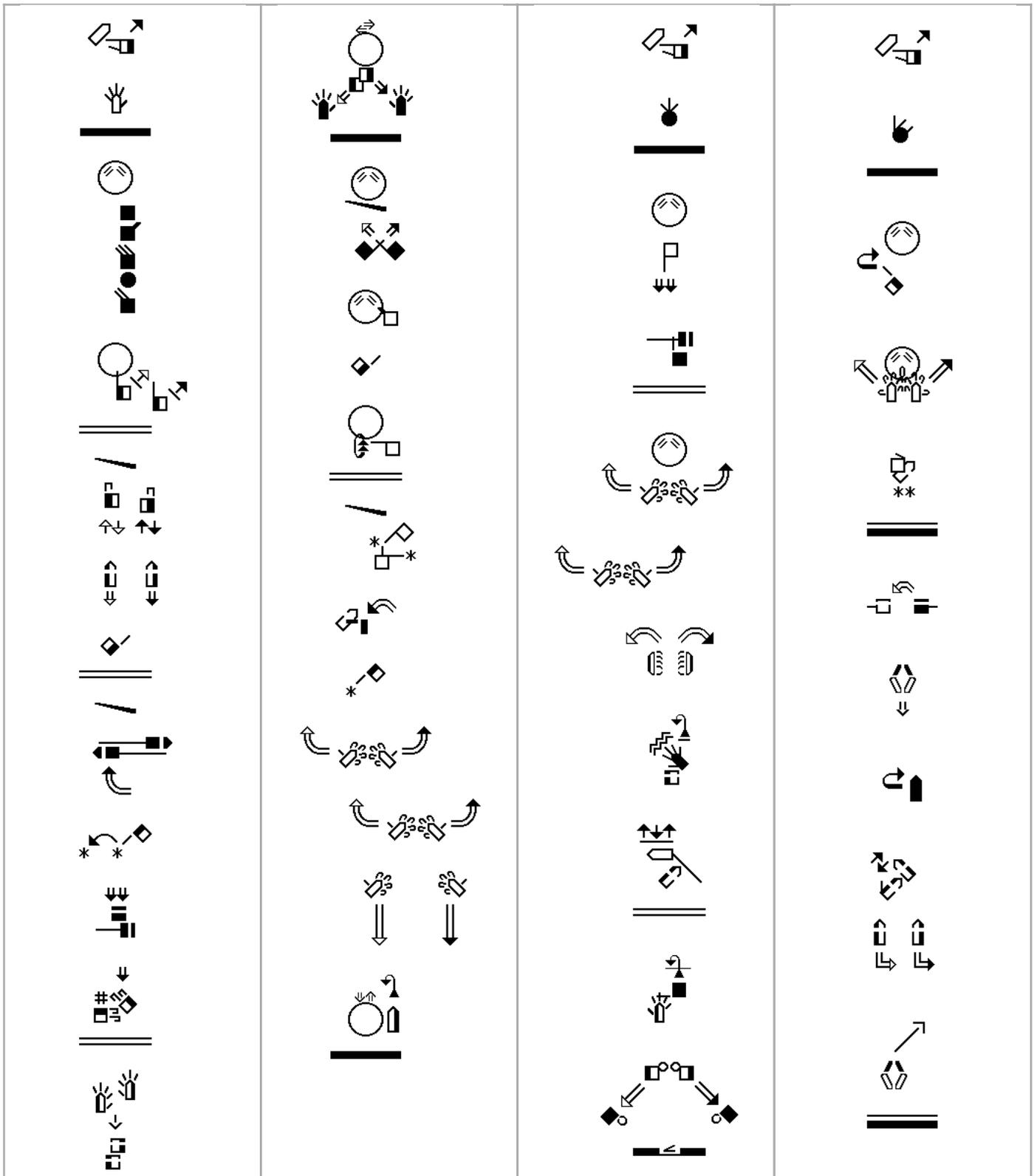


Verse 3. Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there. Verse 4. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish."
 NLT



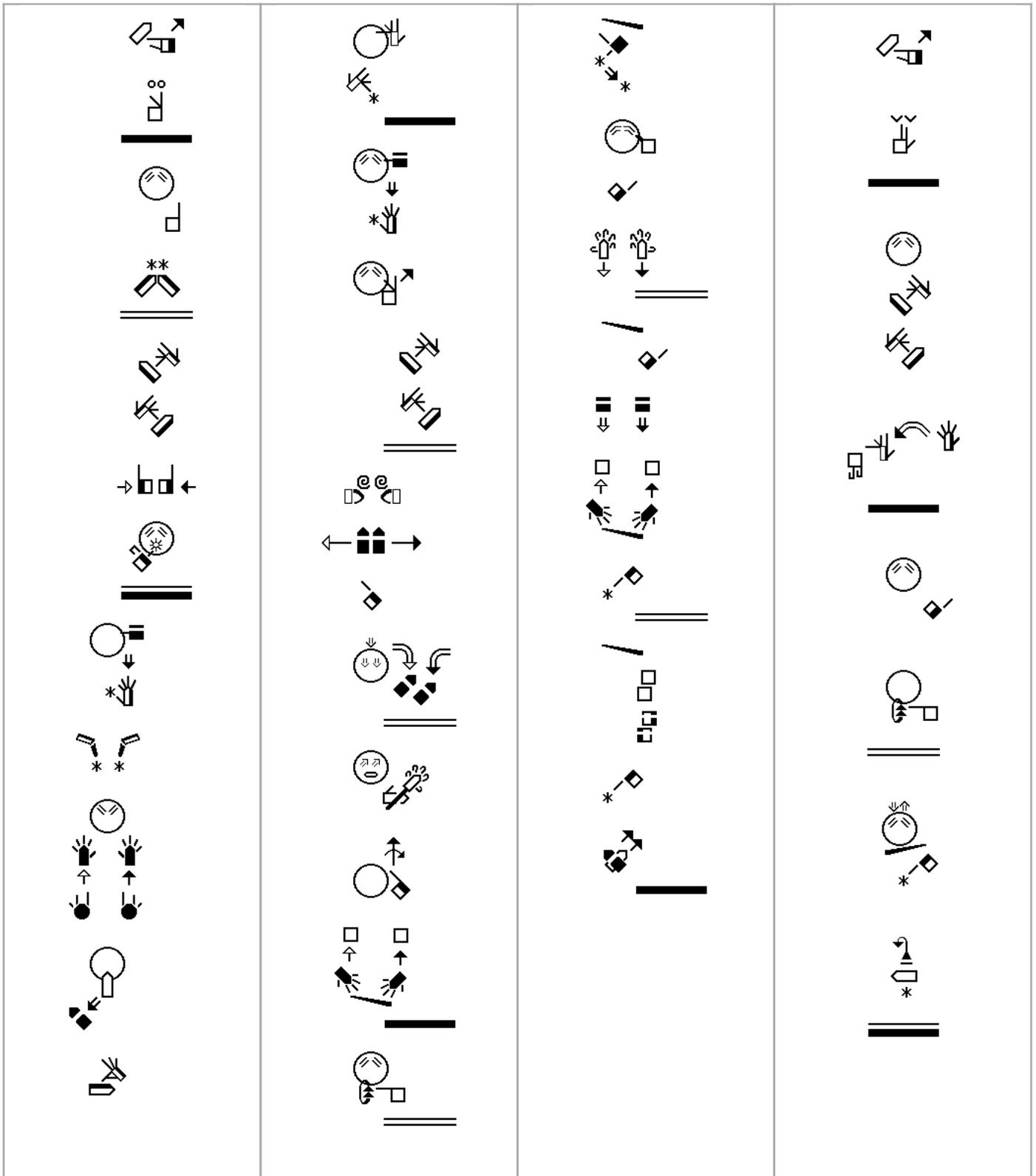
Verse 5. "Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again." Verse 6. And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! Verse 7. A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat,

NLT

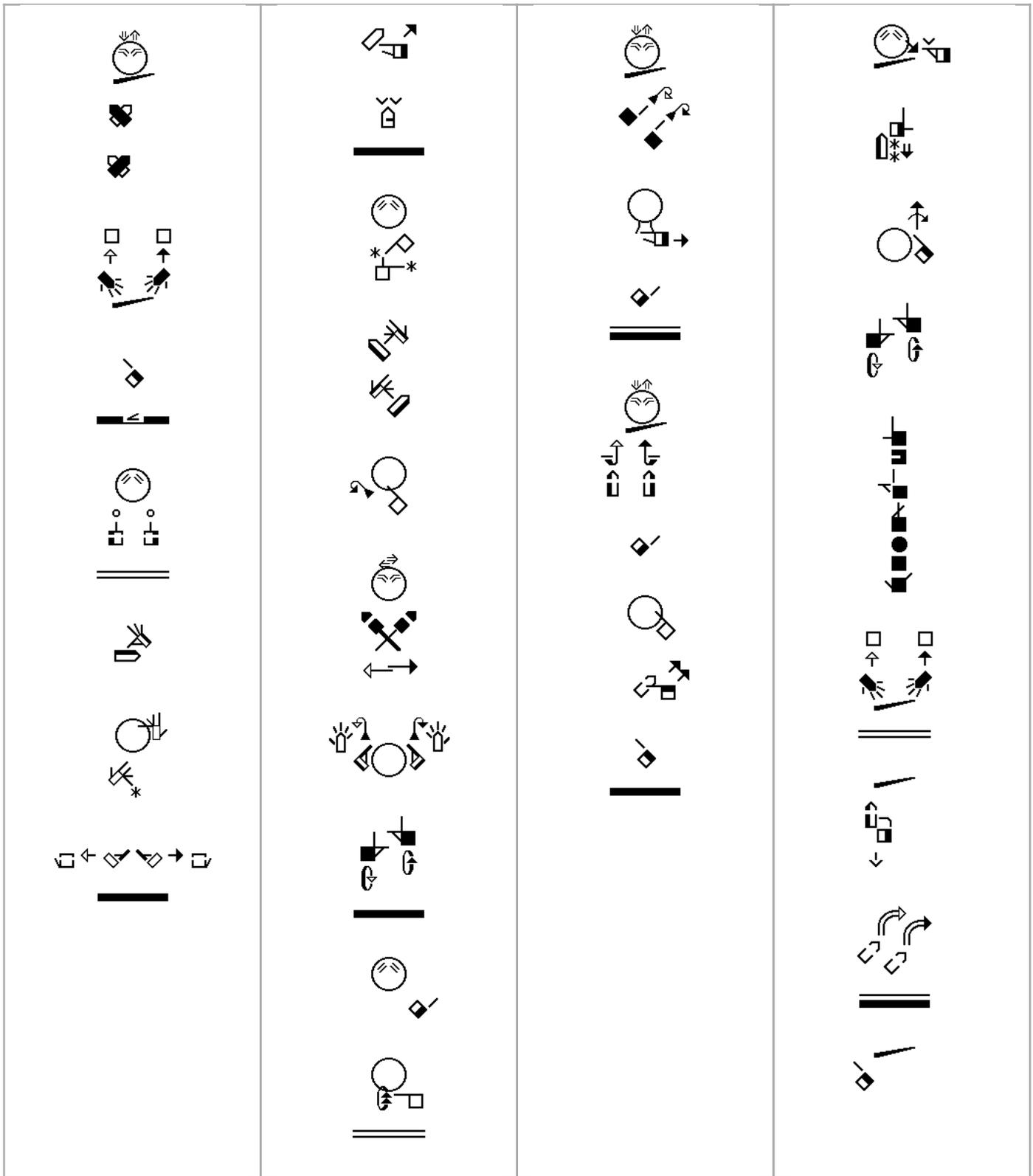
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and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking. Verse 8. When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me -- I'm too much of a sinner to be around you." Verse 9. For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him.

Verse 10. His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Verse 11. And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus. NLT

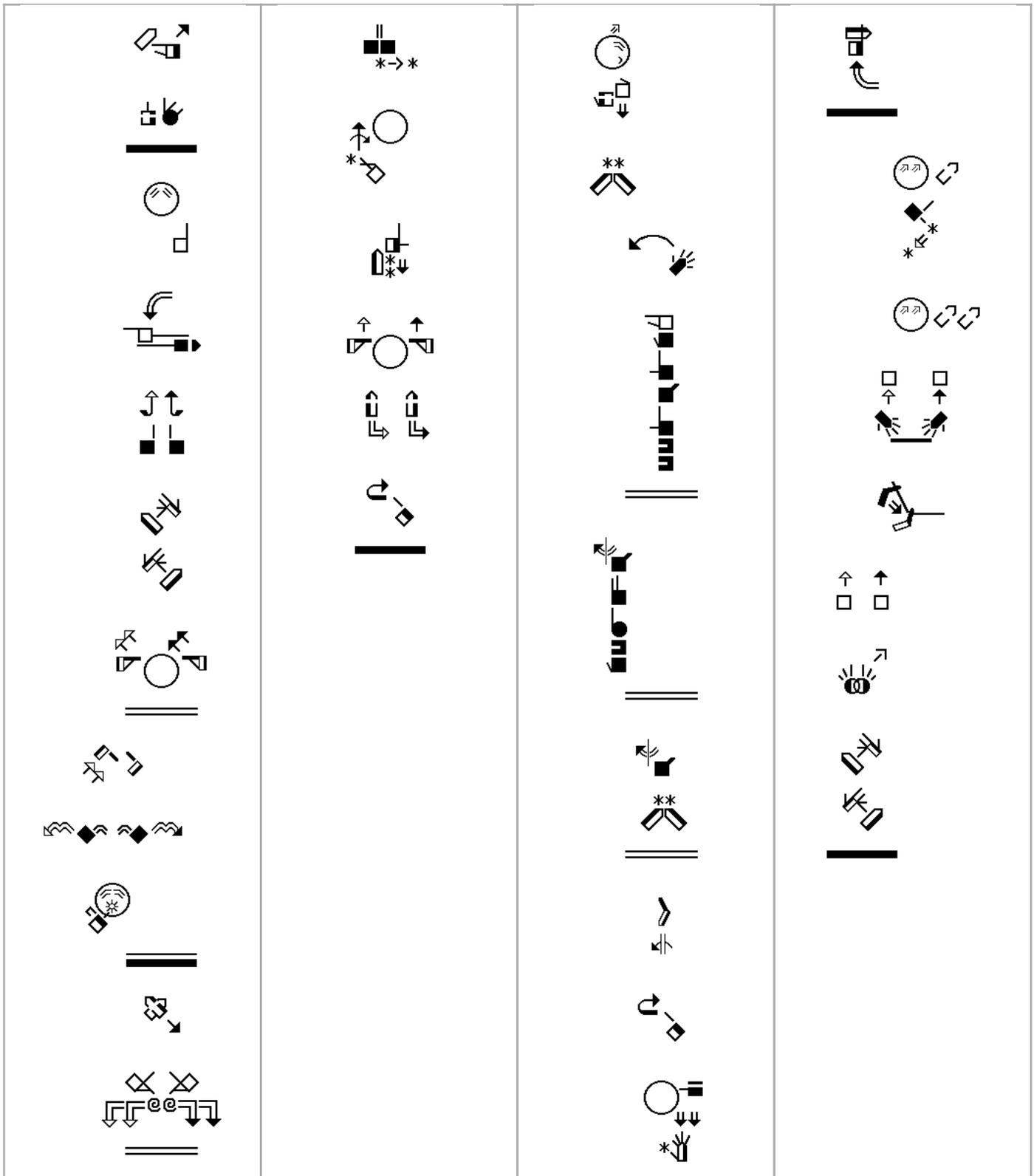


Verse 12. In one of the villages, Jesus met a man with an advanced case of leprosy. When the man saw Jesus, he bowed with his face to the ground, begging to be healed. "Lord," he said, "if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean." Verse 13. Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. NLT



"Be healed!" And instantly the leprosy disappeared. Verse 14. Then Jesus instructed him not to tell anyone what had happened. He said, "Go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy.

NLT

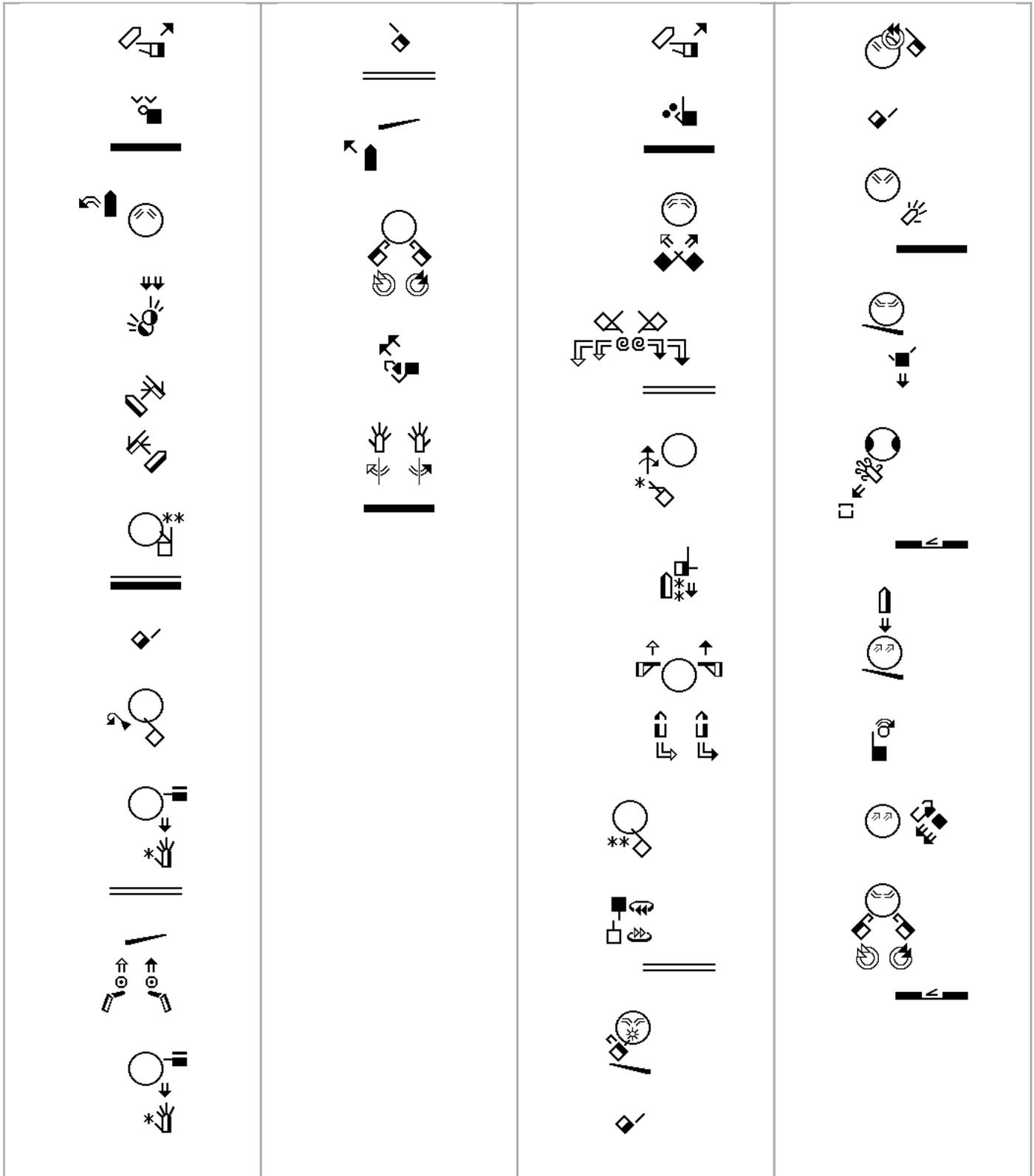


Verse 17. One day while Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and teachers of religious law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was strongly with Jesus.

NLT

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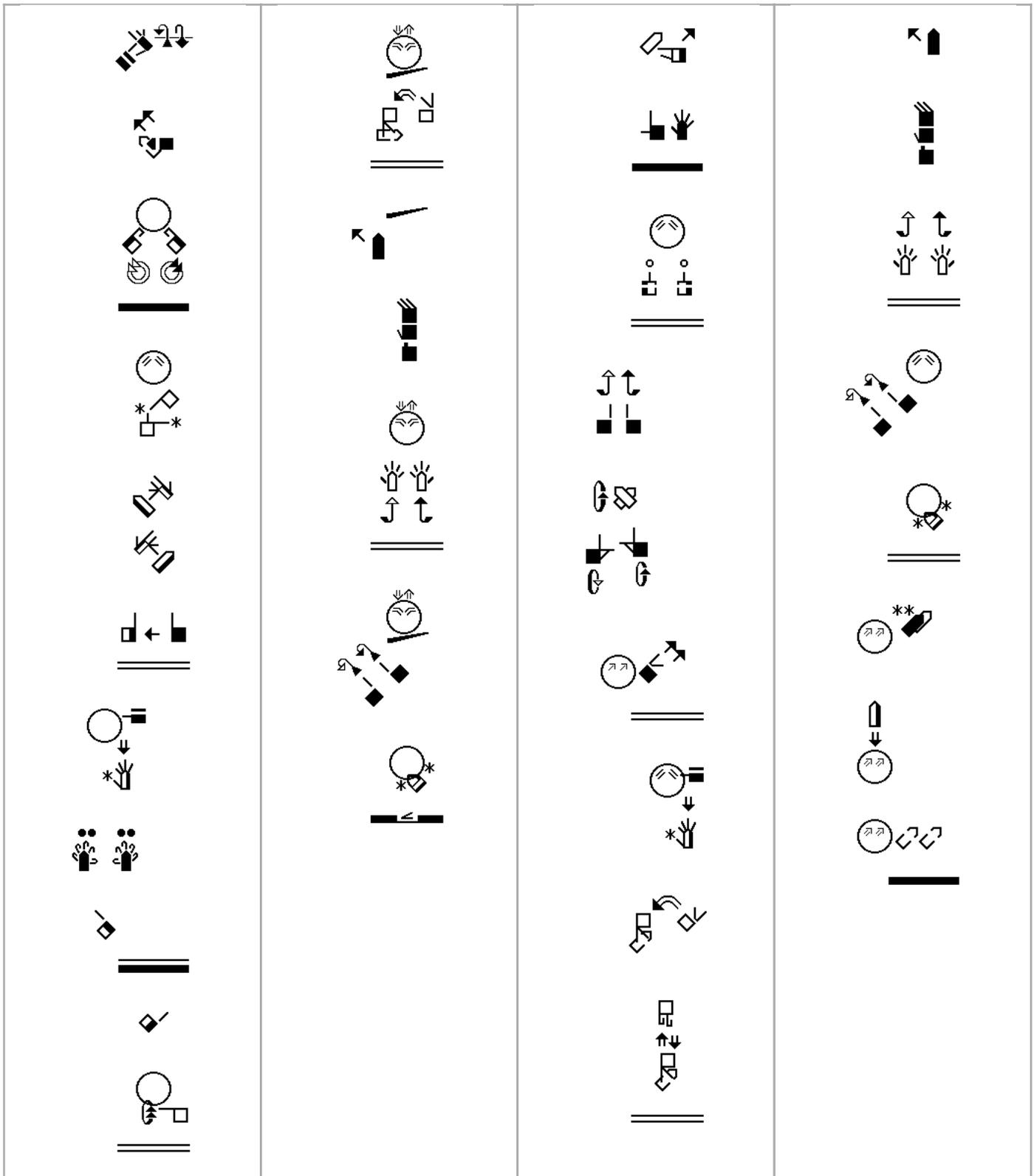
Verse 18. Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a sleeping mat. They tried to take him inside to Jesus, Verse 19. but they couldn't reach him because of the crowd. So they went up to the roof and took off some tiles. Then they lowered the sick man on his mat down into the crowd, right in front of Jesus. NLT



Verse 20. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven."
 Verse 21. But the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to themselves, "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!" NLT

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Verse 22. Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? Verse 23. Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? Verse 24. So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins, as you can see.



earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" Verse 25. And immediately, as everyone watched, the man jumped up, picked up his mat, and went home, praising God.

NLT

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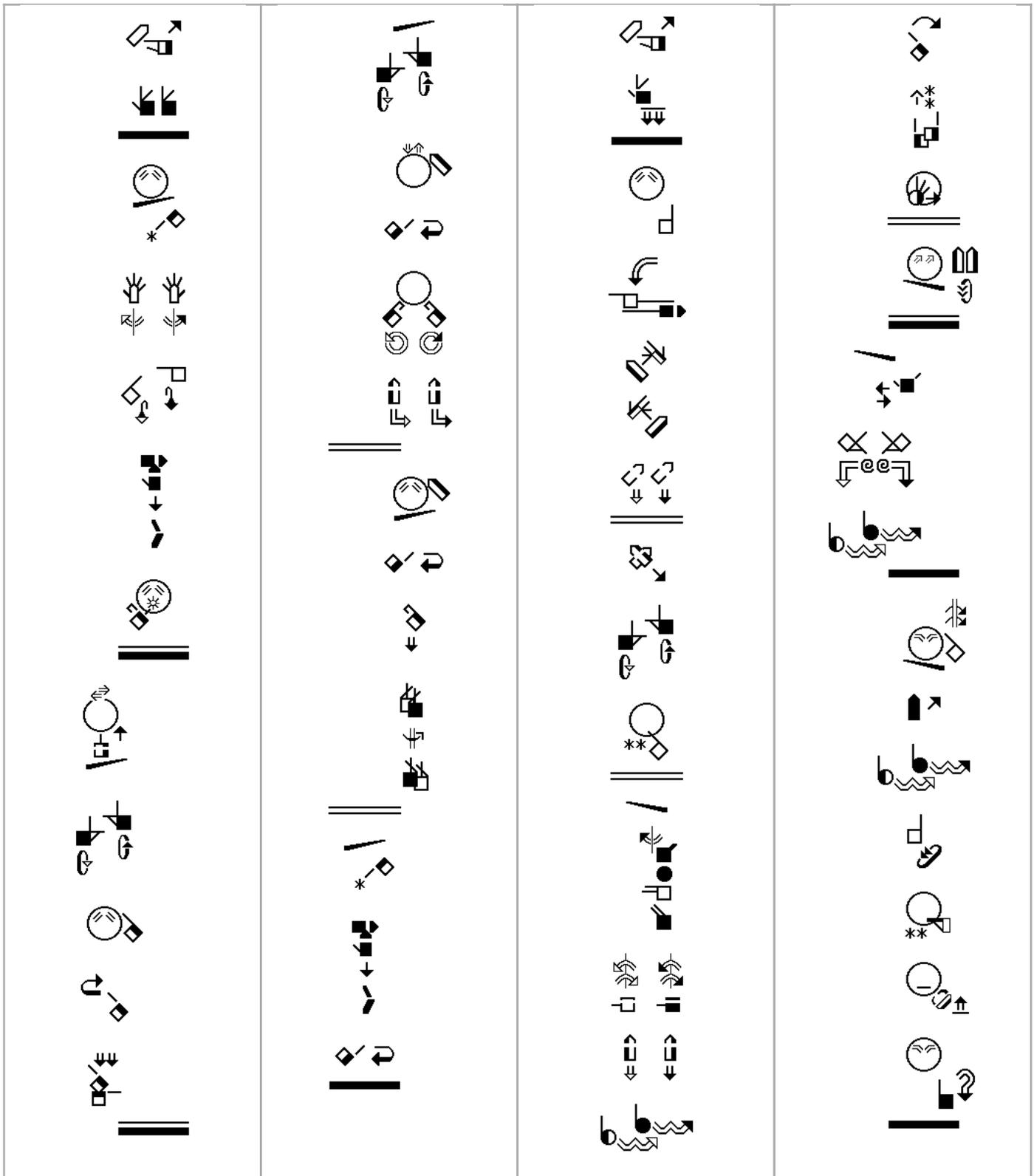
Verse 26. Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, "We have seen amazing things today!" Verse 27. Later, as Jesus left the town, he saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him.

NLT

<p>ASL signs for Verse 28: Levi gets up, leaves his things, and follows Jesus.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 29: Levi hosts a banquet with Jesus as the guest of honor.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 30: Jesus calls Levi to follow him.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 31: Jesus eats with Levi and his guests.</p>
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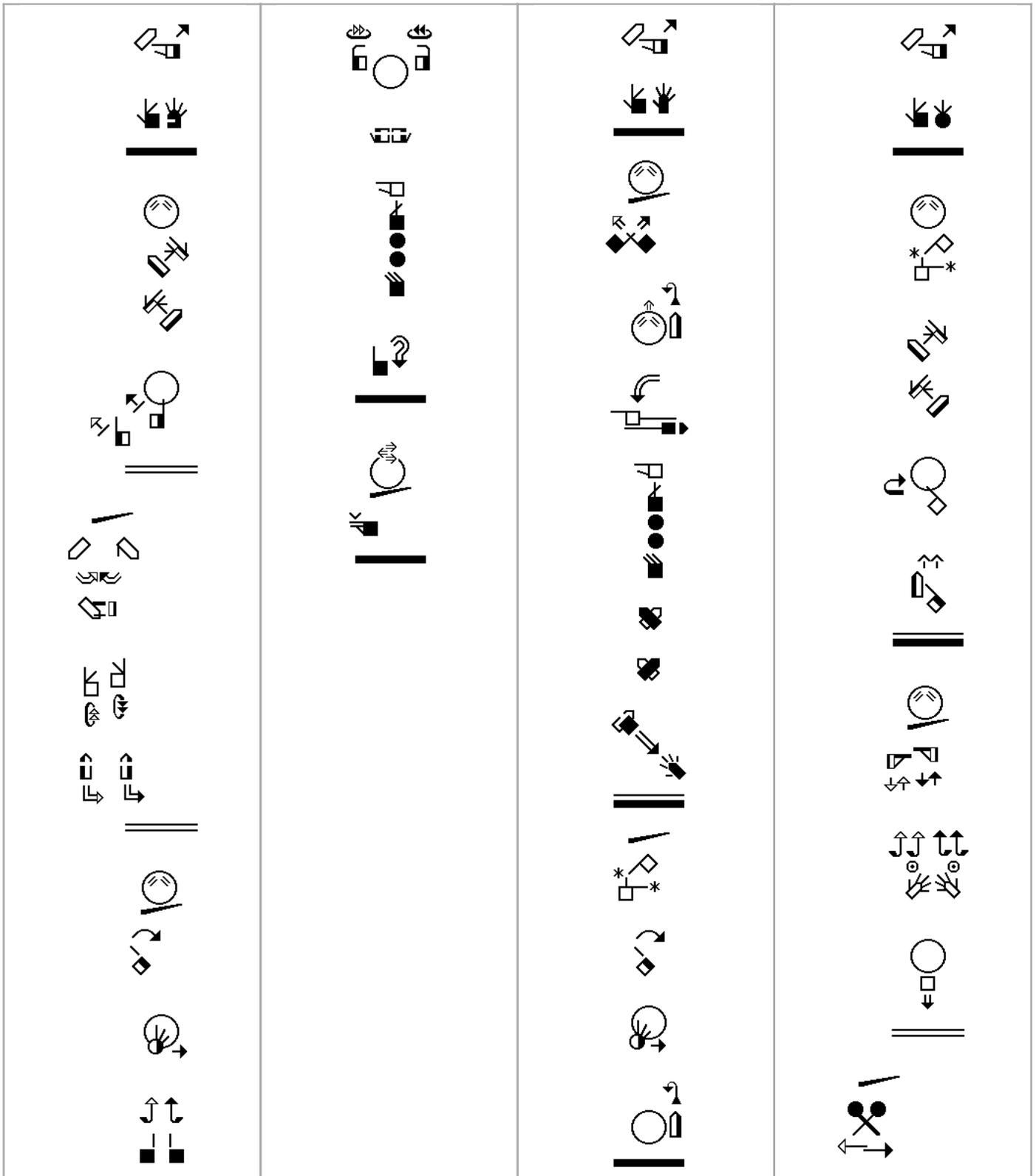
Verse 28. So Levi got up, left everything, and followed him. Verse 29. Later, Levi held a banquet in his home with Jesus as the guest of honor. Many of Levi's fellow tax collectors and other guests also ate with them.

NLT



Verse 32. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent." Verse 33. One day some people said to Jesus, "John the Baptist's disciples fast and pray regularly, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees. Why are your disciples always eating and drinking?"

NLT



Verse 34. Jesus responded, "Do wedding guests fast while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. Verse 35. But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast." Verse 36. Then Jesus gave them this illustration: "No one tears a piece of cloth from a new garment and uses it to patch an old garment. NLT

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For then the new garment would be ruined, and the new patch wouldn't even match the old garment. Verse 37. "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the new wine would burst the wineskins, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. NLT

