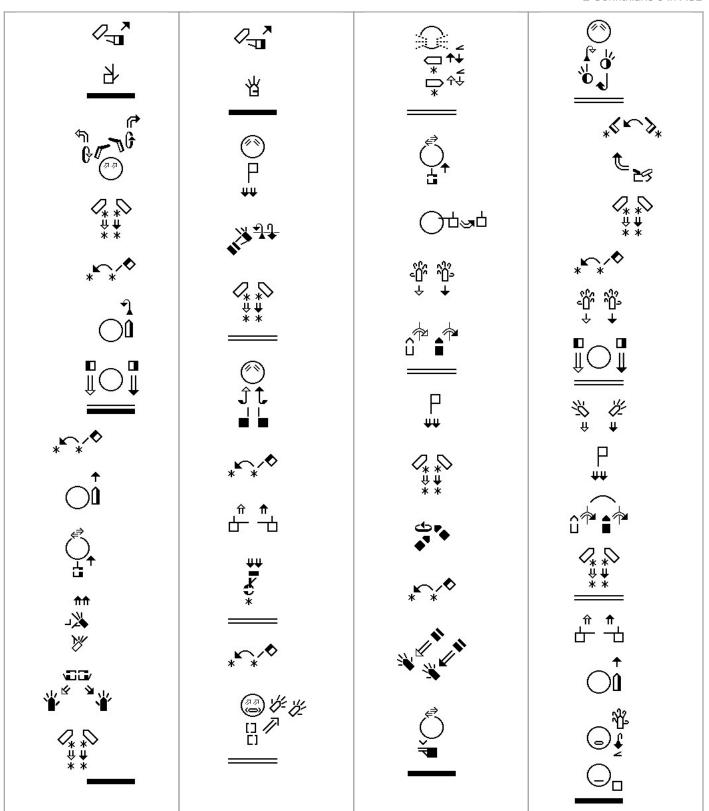
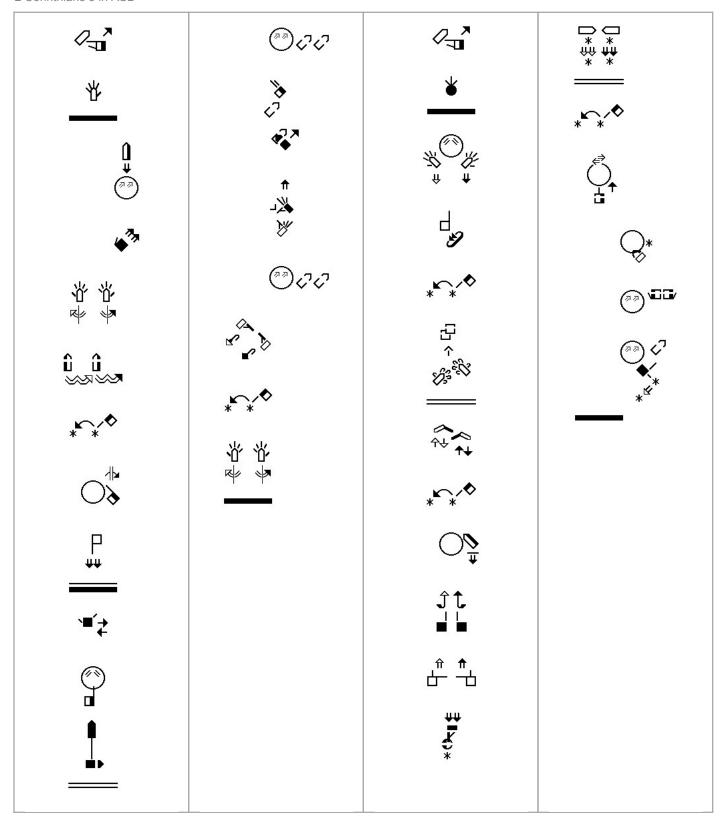


Chapter 5. For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. Verse 2. We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing.



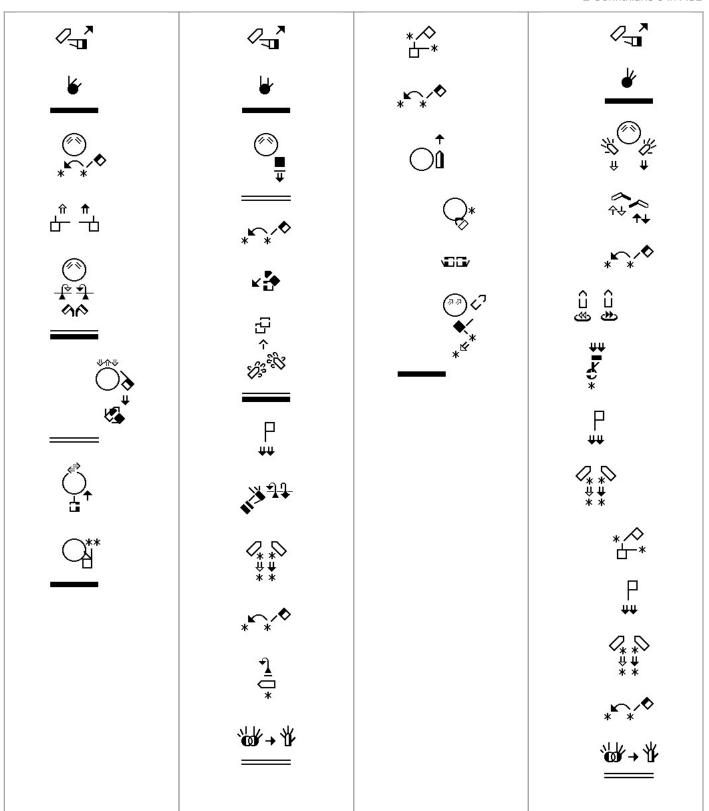
Verse 3. For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies. Verse 4. While we live in these earthly bodies, we groan and sigh, but it's not that we want to die and get rid of these bodies that clothe us. Rather, we want to put on our new bodies so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life.

NLT

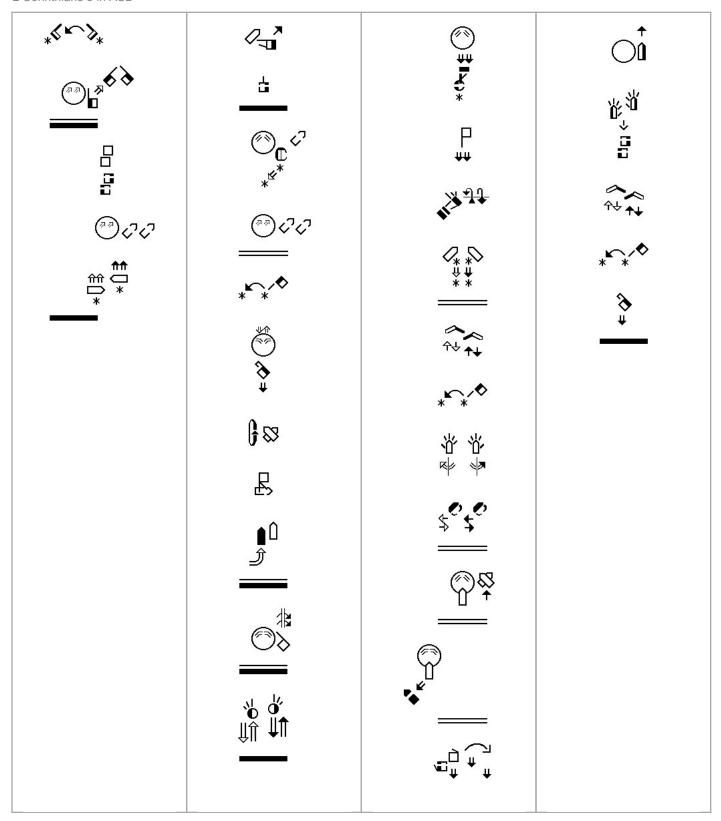


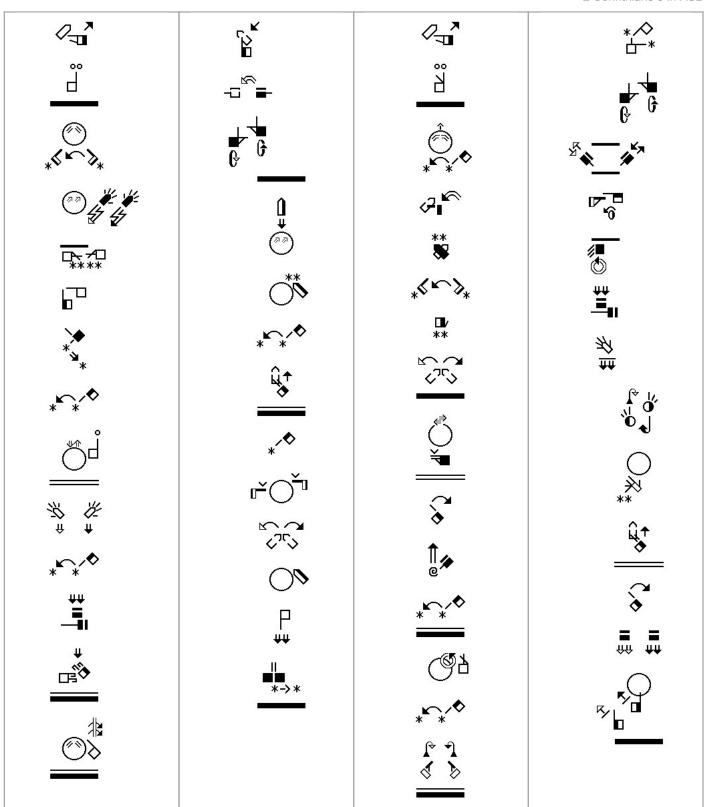
Verse 5. God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit. Verse 6. So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord.

NLT

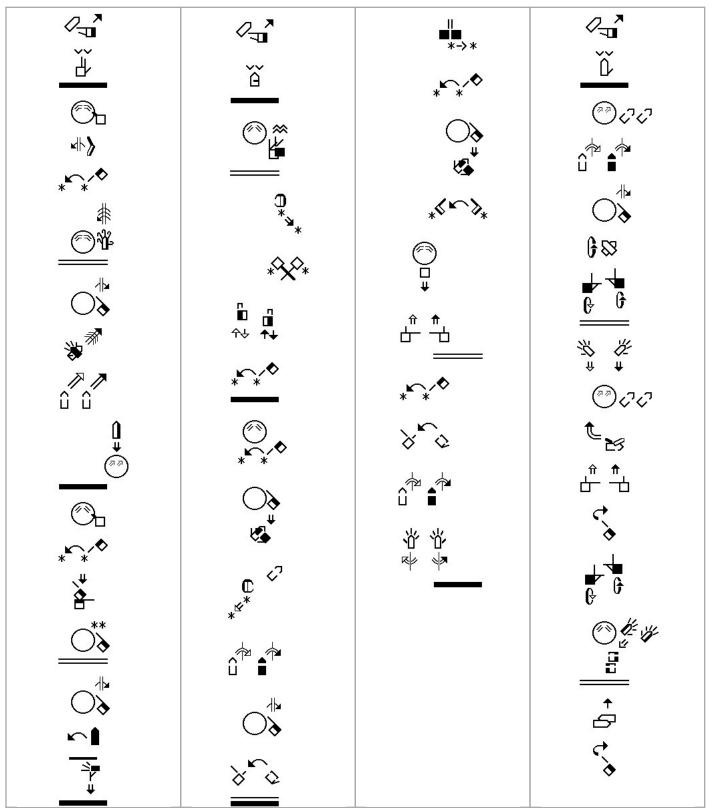


Verse 7. For we live by believing and not by seeing. Verse 8. Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord. Verse 9. So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, NLT

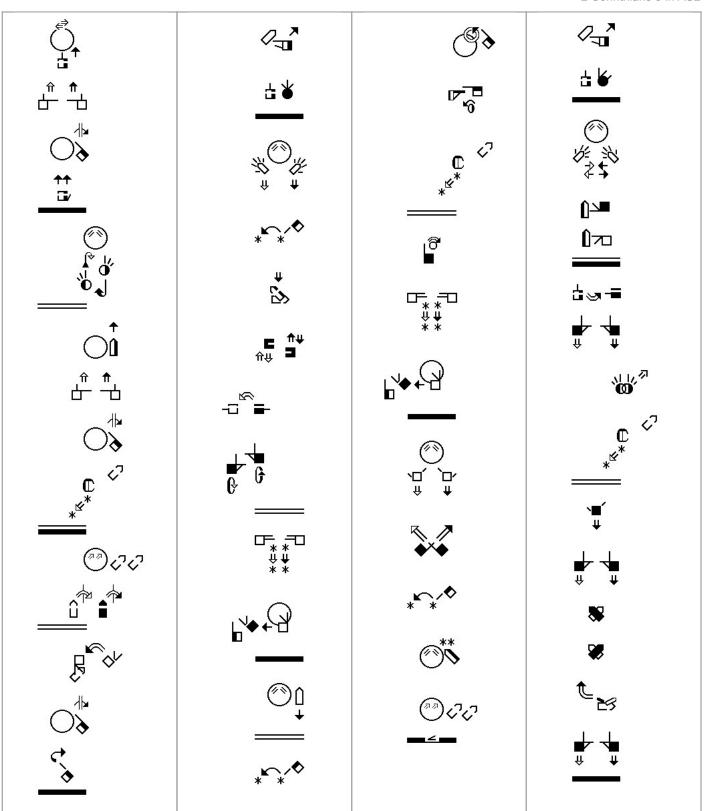




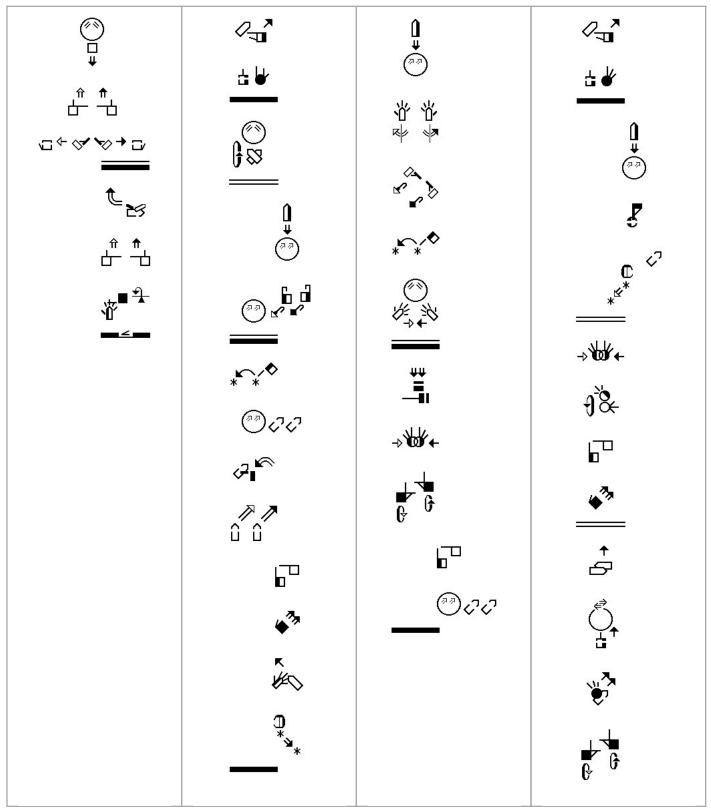
Verse 11. Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too. Verse 12. Are we commending ourselves to you again? No, we are giving you a reason to be proud of us so you can answer those who brag about having a spectacular ministry rather than having a sincere heart.



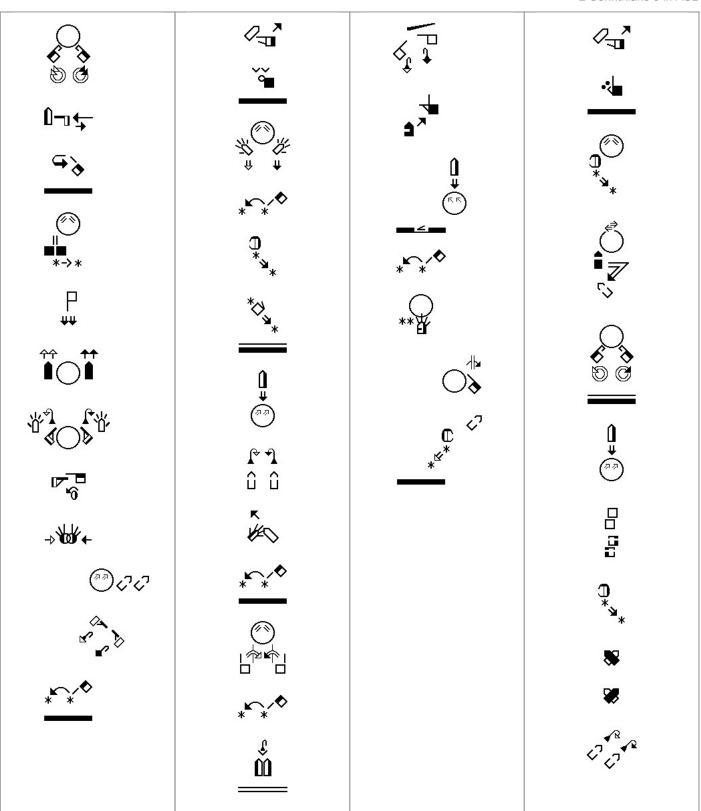
Verse 13. If it seems we are crazy, it is to bring glory to God. And if we are in our right minds, it is for your benefit. Verse 14. Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. Verse 15. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life



will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. Verse 16. So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! Verse 17. This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.



The old life is gone; a new life has begun! Verse 18. And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. Verse 19. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's



sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. Verse 20. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" Verse 21. For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering

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