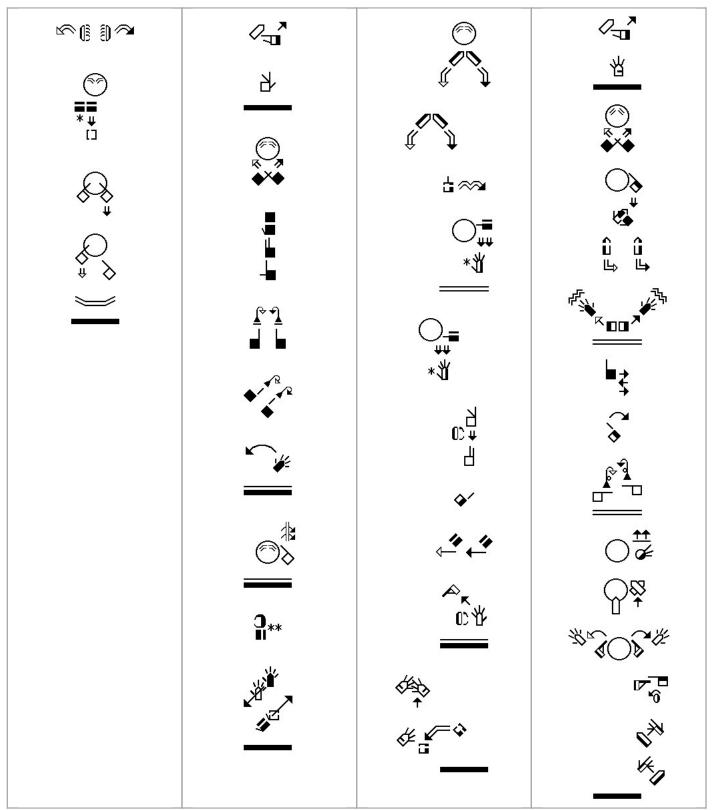
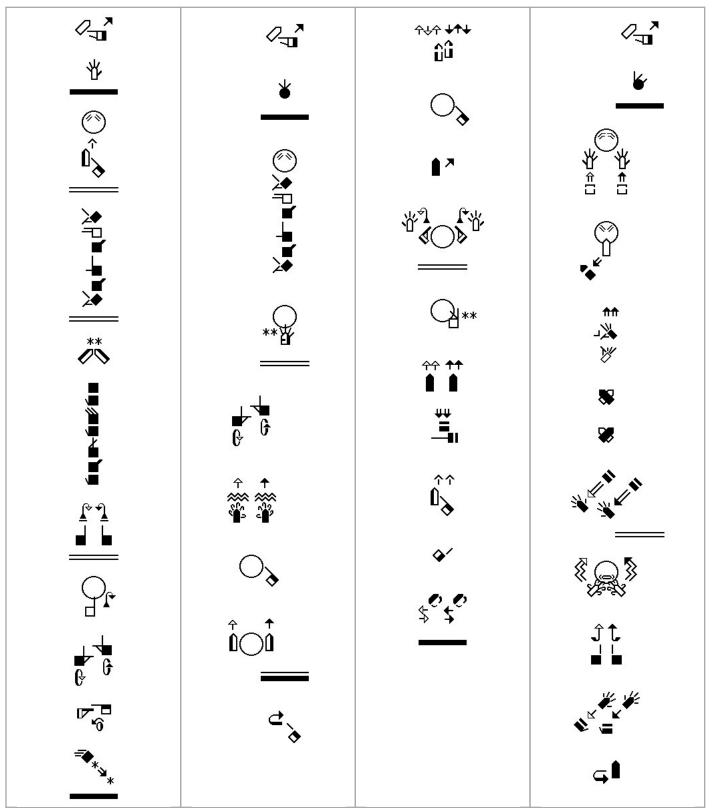


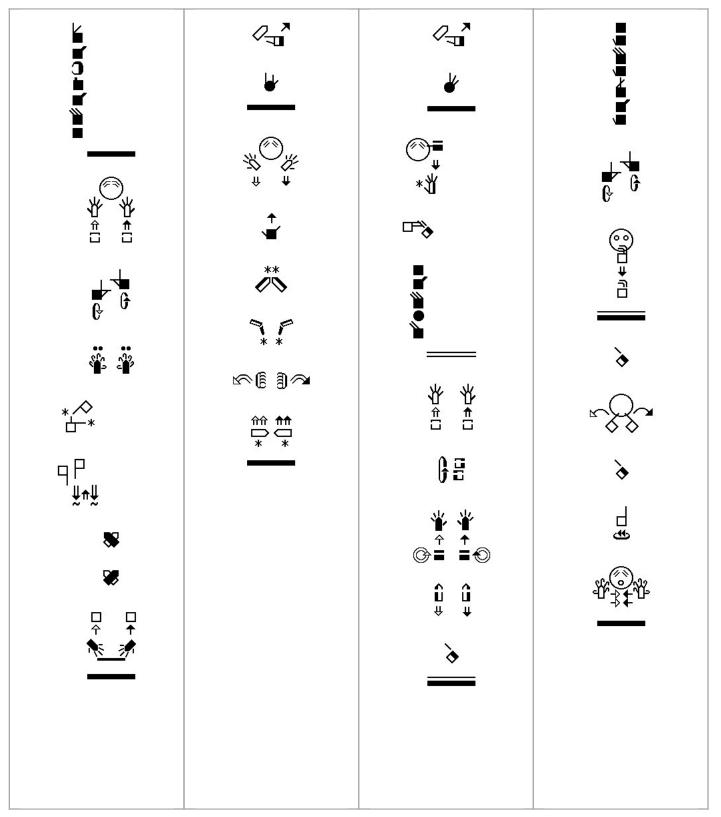
Chapter 8. Saul was one of the witnesses, and he agreed completely with the killing of Stephen. A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and all the believers except the apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria. Verse 2. (Some devout men came and buried Stephen NLT



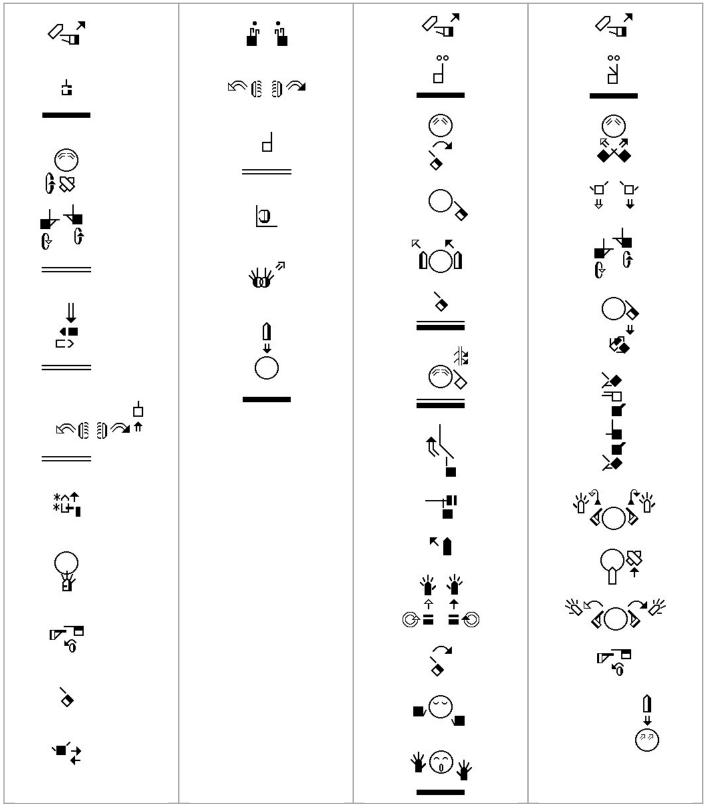
with great mourning.) Verse 3. But Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church.
He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into prison. Verse 4. But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went.



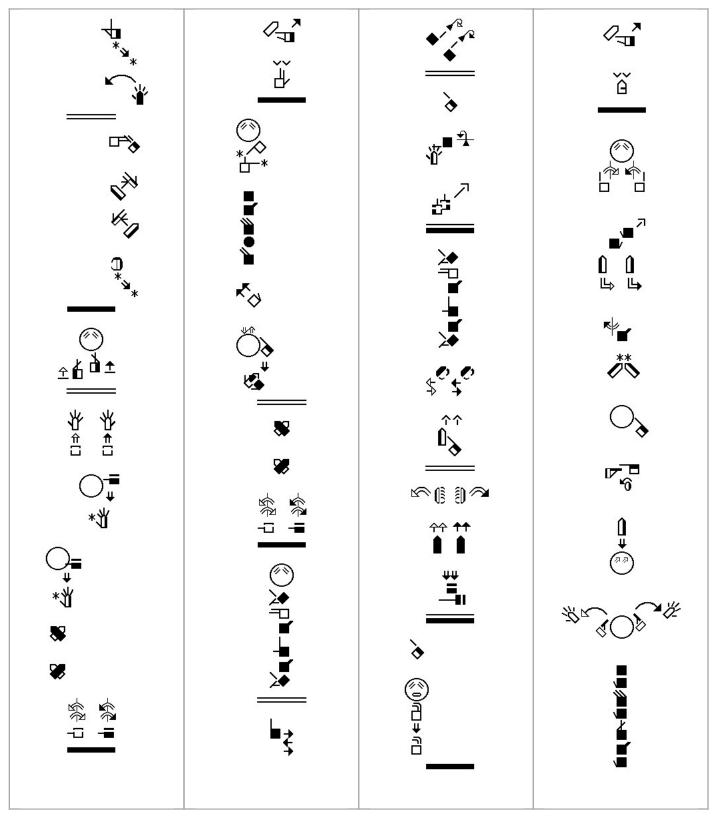
Verse 5. Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Verse 6. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. Verse 7. Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their NLT



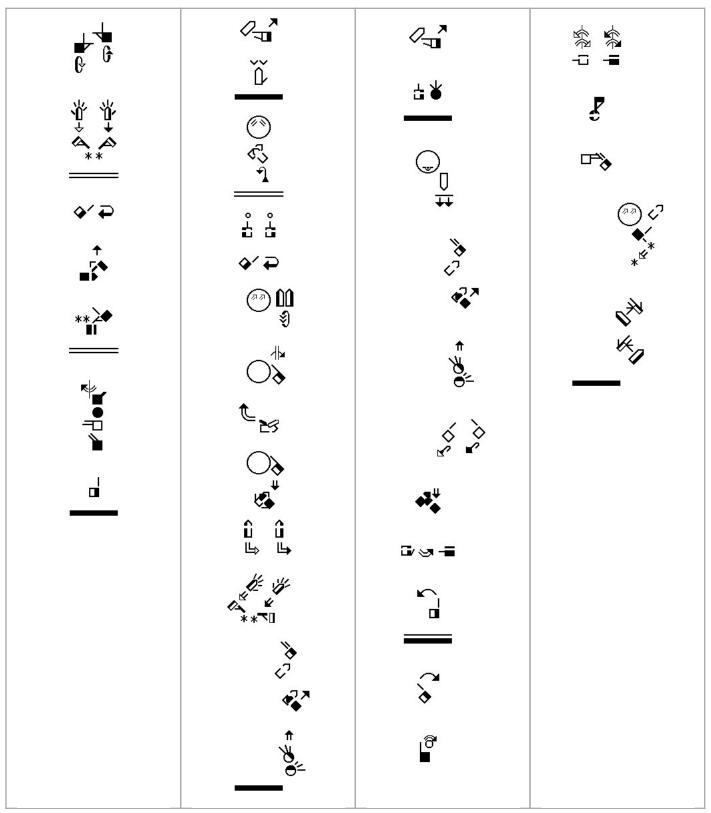
victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. Verse 8. So therewas great joy in that city. Verse 9. A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. NLT



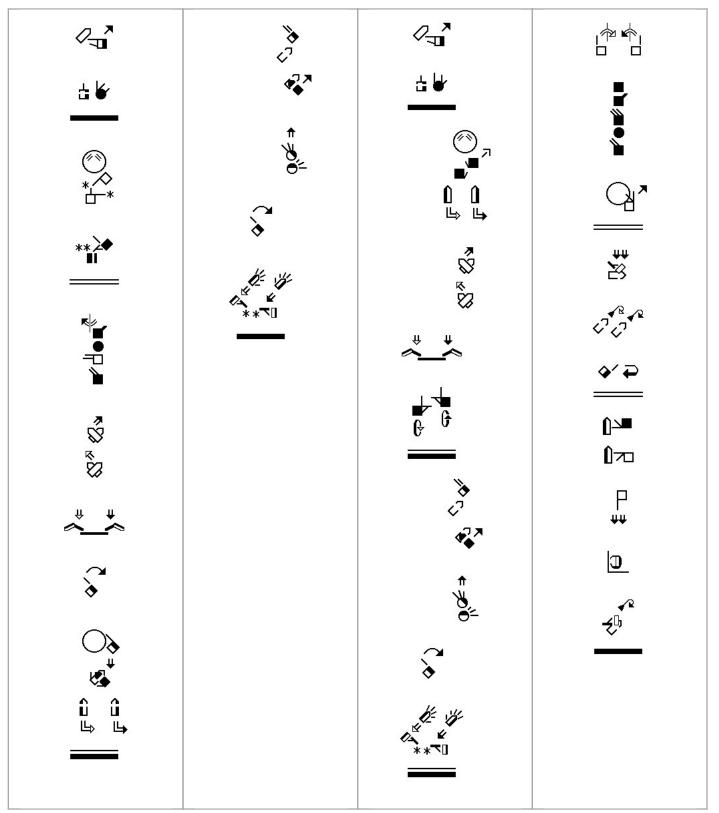
Verse 10. Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as "the Great One -- the Power of God." Verse 11. They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic. Verse 12. But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning NLT



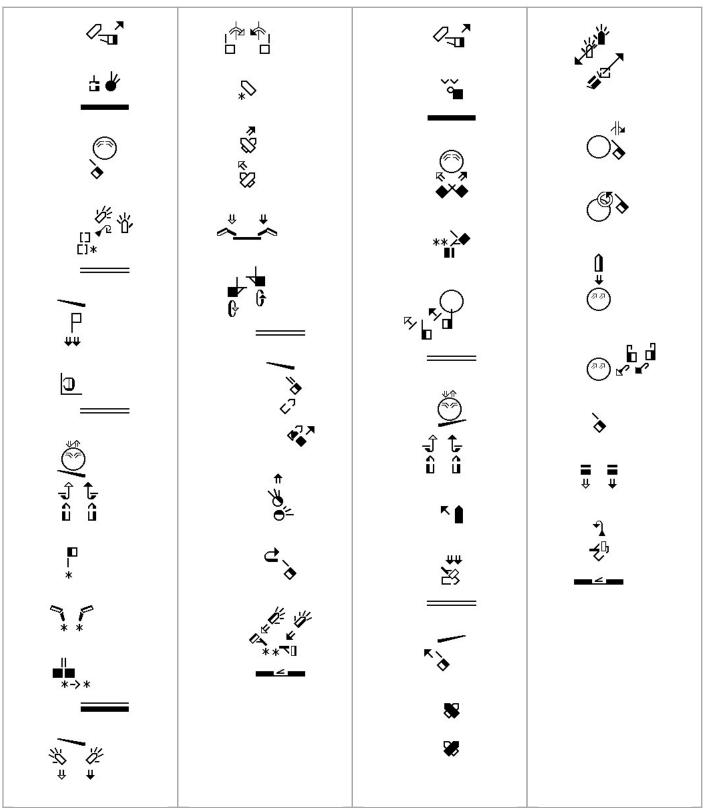
the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized. Verse 13. Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed. Verse 14. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria



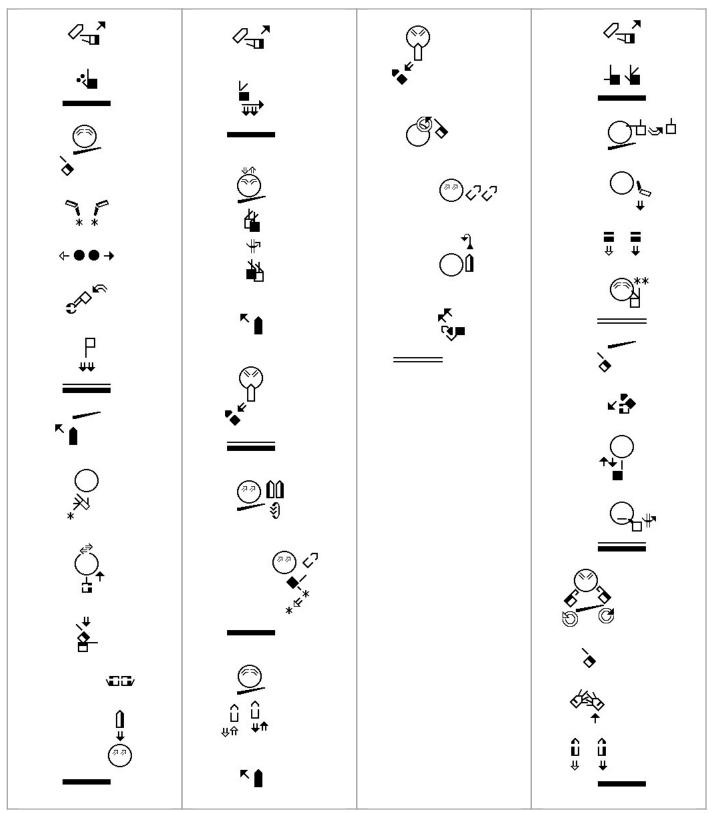
had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. Verse 15. As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. Verse 16. The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. NLT



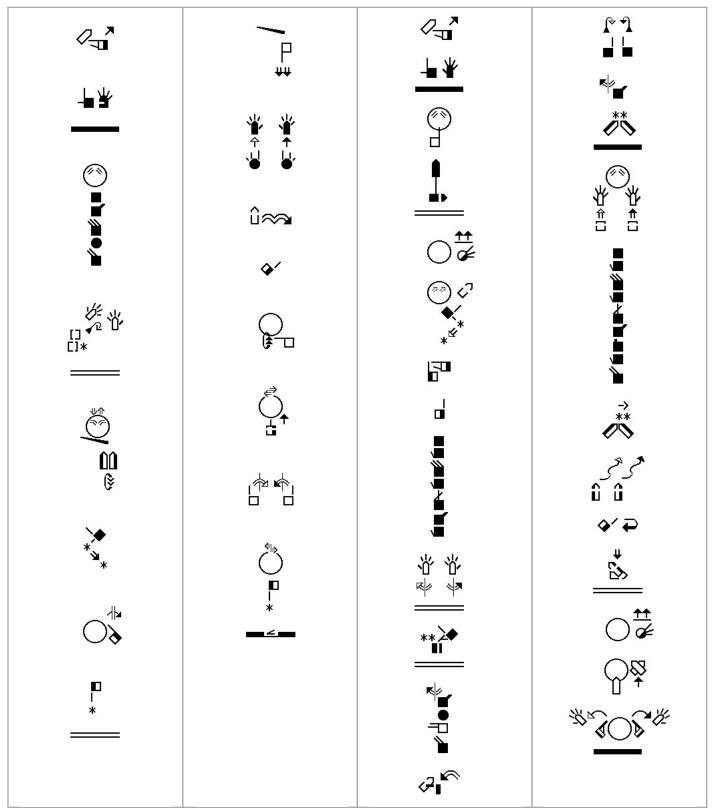
Verse 17. Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received
the Holy Spirit. Verse 18. When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. NLT



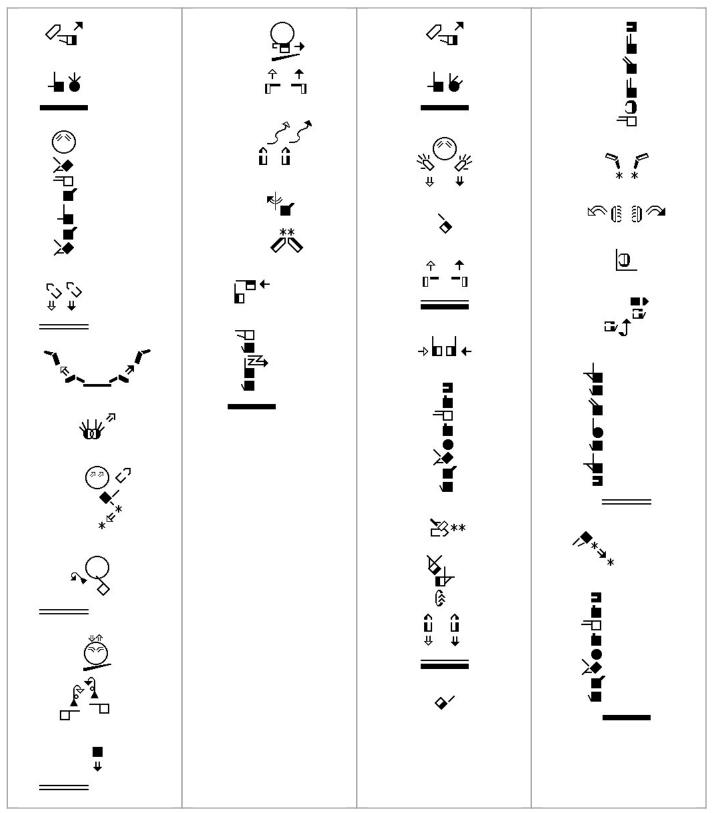
Verse 19. "Let me have this power, too," he exclaimed, "so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!" Verse 20. But Peter replied, "May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God's gift can be bought! NLT



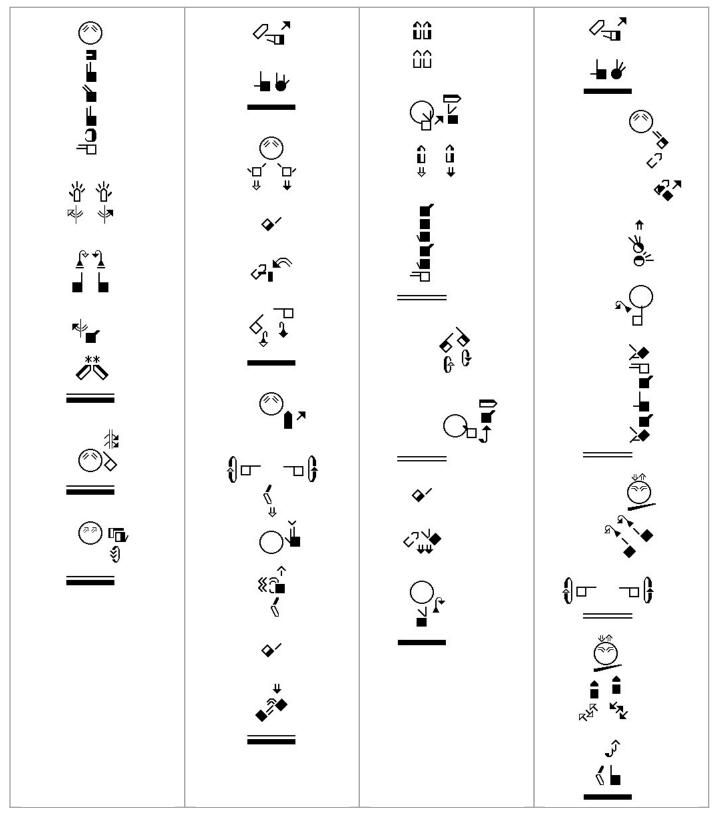
135 Verse 21. You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. Verse 22.
135 Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, Verse 23. for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin." NLT



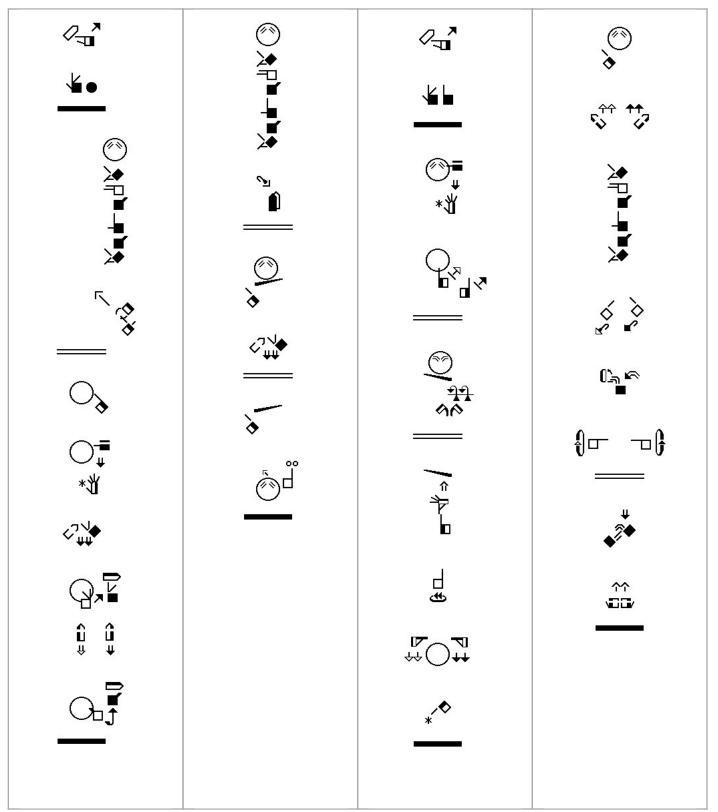
Verse 24. "Pray to the Lord for me," Simon exclaimed, "that these terrible things you've said won't happen to me!" Verse 25. After testifying and preaching the word of the Lord in Samaria, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem. And they stopped in many Samaritan villages along the way to preach the Good News. NLT



137 Verse 26. As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, "Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza." Verse 27. So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia.

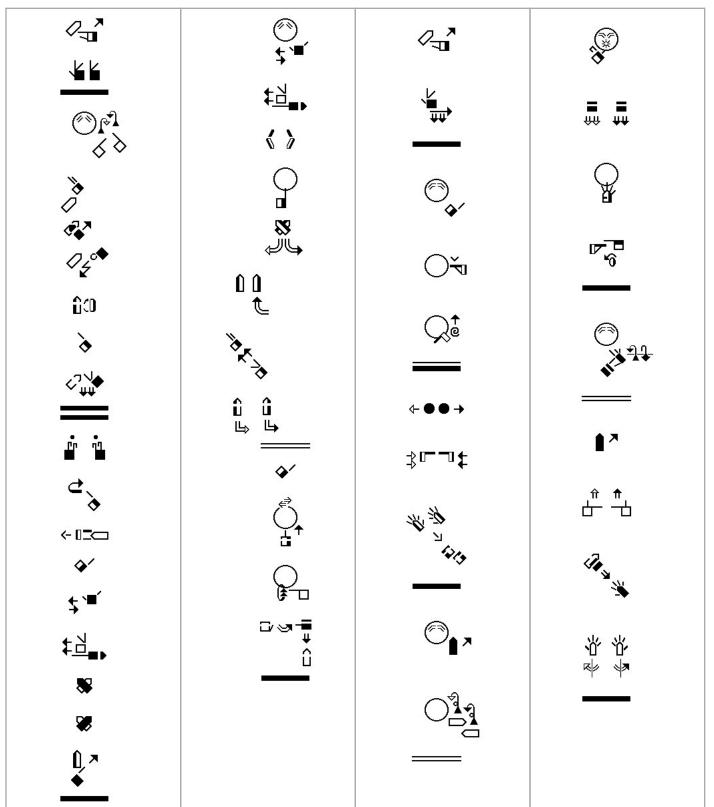


The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship,Verse 28. and he was now returning.Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah.13829. The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and walk along beside the carriage."NLT

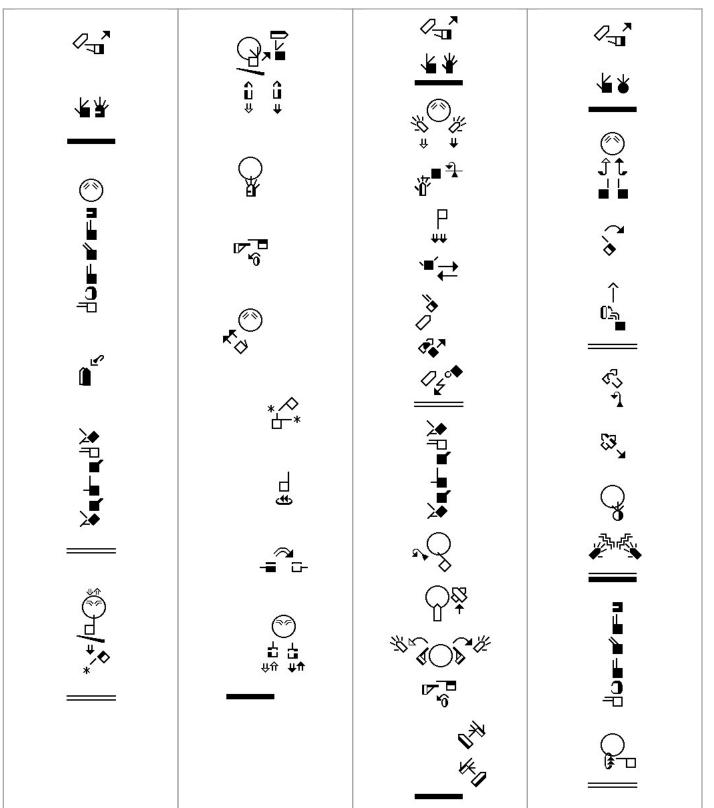


139 Verse 30. Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" Verse 31. The man replied, "How can I, unless someone instructs me?" And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him.

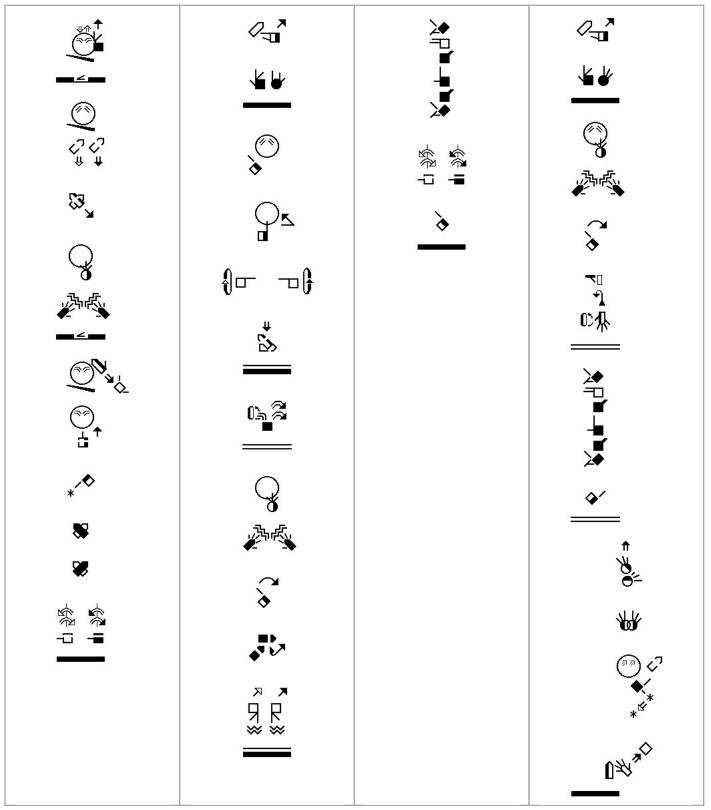
Acts 8 in ASL



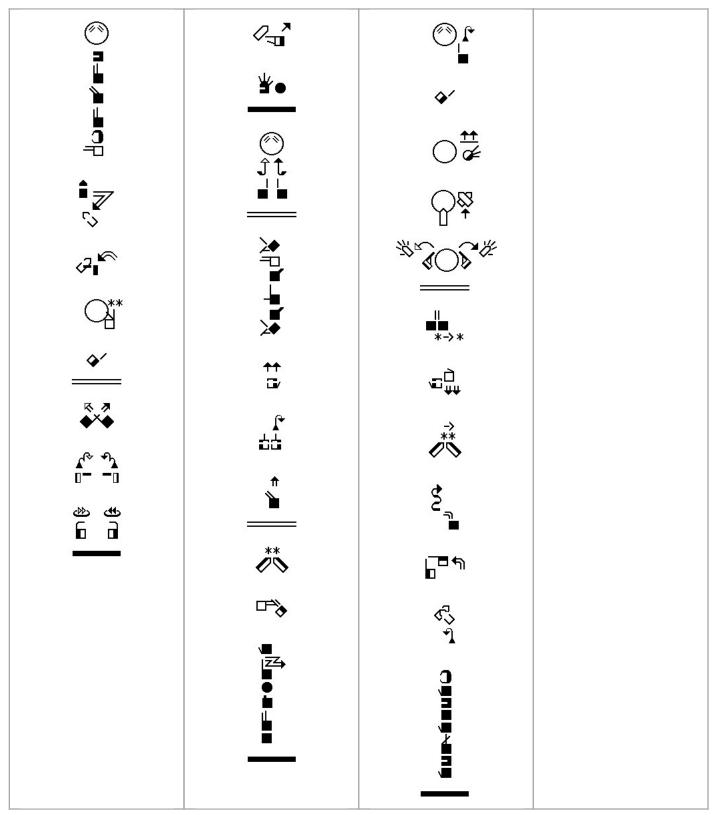
Verse 32. The passage of Scripture he had been reading was this: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter. And as a lamb is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. Verse 33. He was humiliated and received no justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."



141 Verse 34. The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?" Verse 35. So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. Verse 36. As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said,



"Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?" (*Note: no verse 37 in NLT) Verse 38. He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. Verse 39. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away.



143The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. Verse 40. Meanwhile,
Philip found himself farther north at the town of Azotus. He preached the Good News
there and in every town along the way until he came to Caesarea.NLT