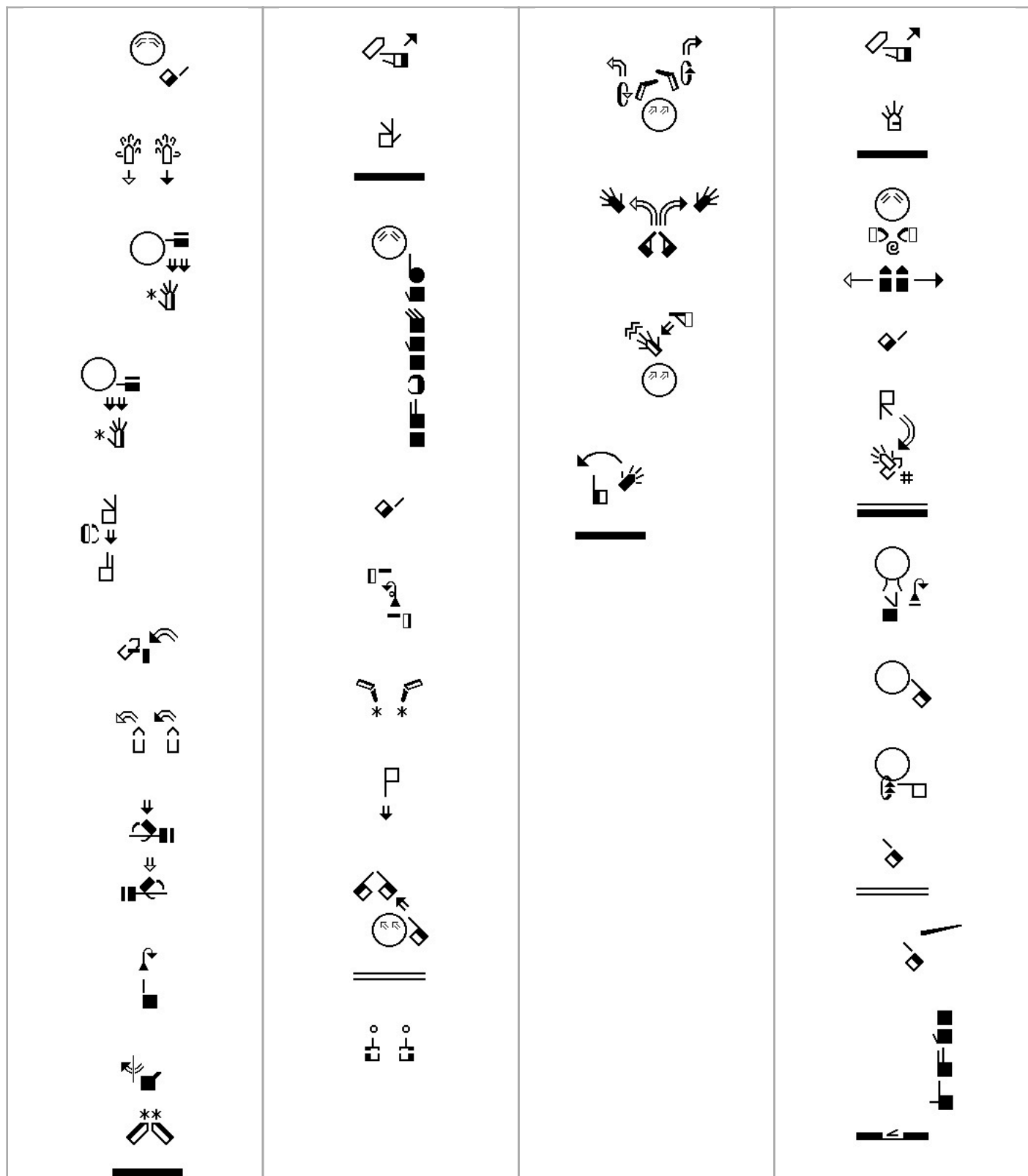


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Chapter 9. Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. Verse 2. He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there.

NLT



He wanted to bring them -- both men and women -- back to Jerusalem in chains. Verse 3. As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. Verse 4. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul!"

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<p>ASL signs for Verse 5: Saul asks, "Who are you, lord?" The sequence includes a hand sign for 'who', a hand sign for 'you', a hand sign for 'are', a hand sign for 'you', a hand sign for 'lord', and a hand sign for 'ask'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 6: The voice replies, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" The sequence includes a hand sign for 'I', a hand sign for 'am', a hand sign for 'Jesus', a hand sign for 'the', a hand sign for 'one', a hand sign for 'you', a hand sign for 'are', and a hand sign for 'persecuting'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 7: Saul asks, "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." The sequence includes a hand sign for 'now', a hand sign for 'get', a hand sign for 'up', a hand sign for 'and', a hand sign for 'go', a hand sign for 'into', a hand sign for 'the', a hand sign for 'city', a hand sign for 'and', a hand sign for 'you', a hand sign for 'will', a hand sign for 'be', a hand sign for 'told', a hand sign for 'what', a hand sign for 'you', and a hand sign for 'must'.</p>	<p>ASL signs for Verse 8: The voice replies, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" The sequence includes a hand sign for 'I', a hand sign for 'am', a hand sign for 'Jesus', a hand sign for 'the', a hand sign for 'one', a hand sign for 'you', a hand sign for 'are', and a hand sign for 'persecuting'.</p>
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Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" Verse 5. "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" Verse 6. Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

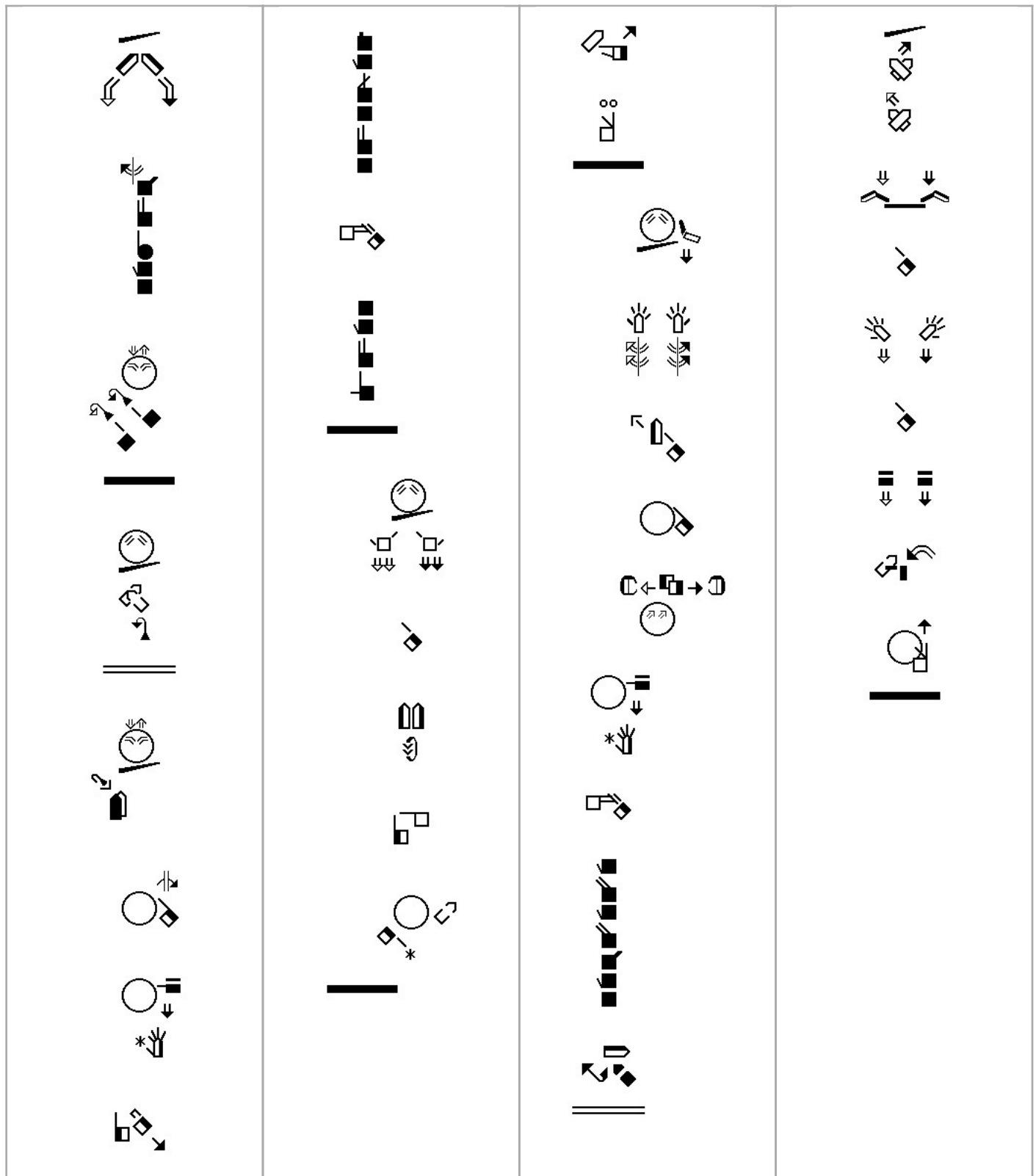
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Verse 7. The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! Verse 8. Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. NLT

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Verse 9. He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink. Verse 10. Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord!" he replied. Verse 11. The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street,



149 to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. Verse 12. I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again." NLT

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Verse 13. "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! Verse 14. And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name." Verse 15. But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen

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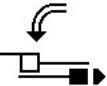




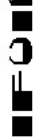









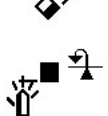
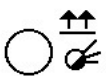














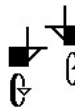






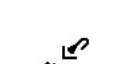






















instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. Verse 16. And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake." Verse 17. So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has

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sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Verse 18. Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. Verse 19. Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength.

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
































          	                	                	                
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Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days. Verse 20. And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is indeed the Son of God!" Verse 21. All who heard him were amazed. "Isn't this the same man who caused such devastation among Jesus' followers in Jerusalem?" they asked.

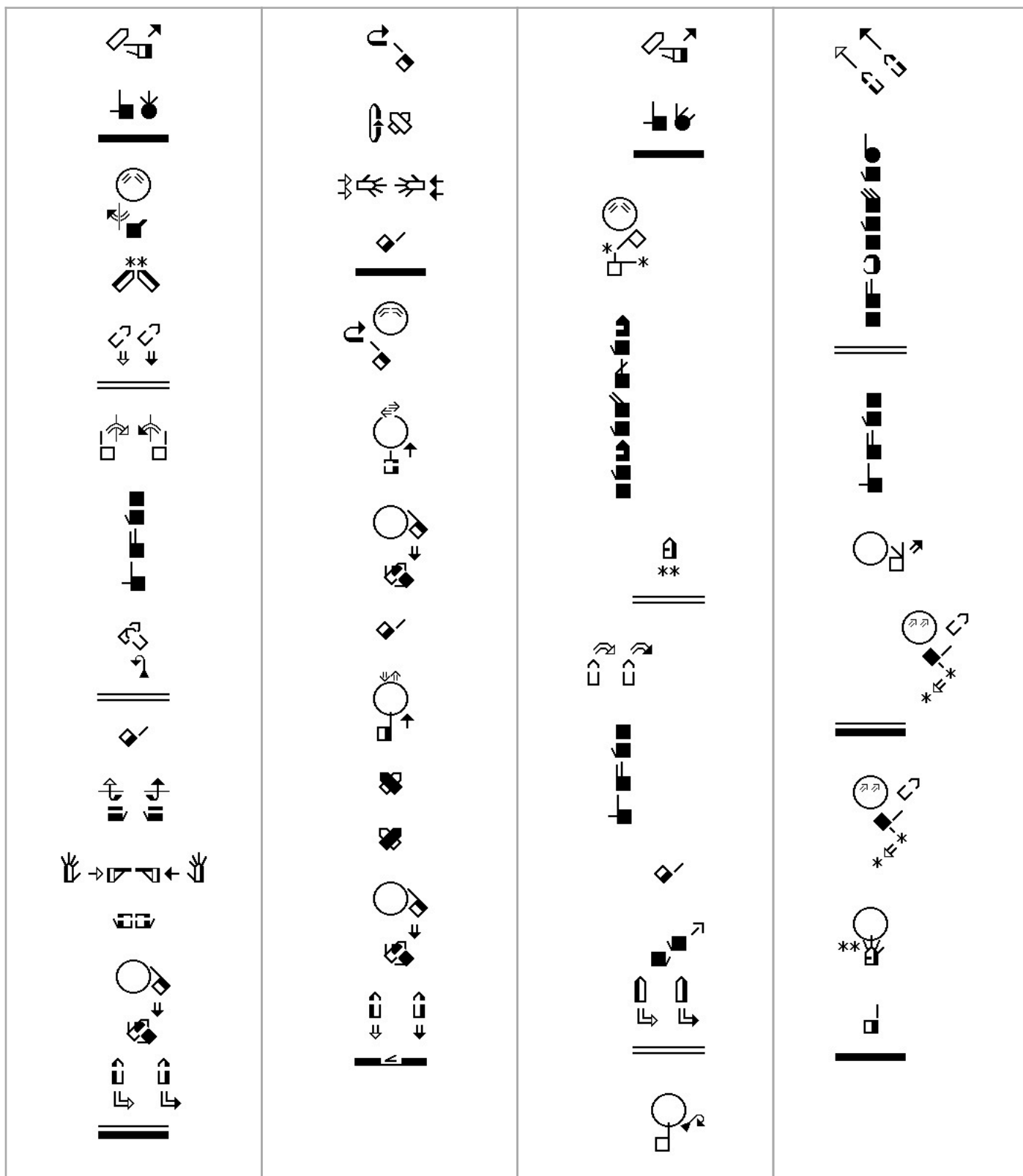
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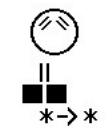



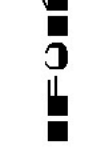
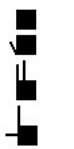
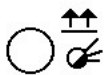






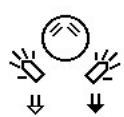
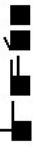



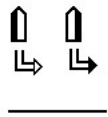

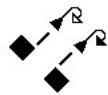




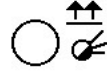
















"And didn't he come here to arrest them and take them in chains to the leading priests?"
 Verse 22. Saul's preaching became more and more powerful, and the Jews in Damascus
 couldn't refute his proofs that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. Verse 23. After a while
 some of the Jews plotted together to kill him.
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Verse 24. They were watching for him day and night at the city gate so they could murder him, but Saul was told about their plot. Verse 25. So during the night, some of the other believers lowered him in a large basket through an opening in the city wall. NLT



Verse 26. When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had truly become a believer! Verse 27. Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. NLT

          	          	       	           
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He also told them that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus. Verse 28. So Saul stayed with the apostles and went all around Jerusalem with them, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. Verse 29. He debated with some Greek-speaking Jews, but they tried to murder him.

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And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers. Verse 32. Meanwhile, Peter traveled from place to place, and he came down to visit the believers in the town of Lydda. Verse 33. There he met a man named Aeneas, who had been paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. Verse 34. Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you!" NLT

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Get up, and roll up your sleeping mat!" And he was healed instantly. Verse 35. Then the whole population of Lydda and Sharon saw Aeneas walking around, and they turned to the Lord. Verse 36. There was a believer in Joppa named Tabitha (which in Greek is Dorcas). NLT


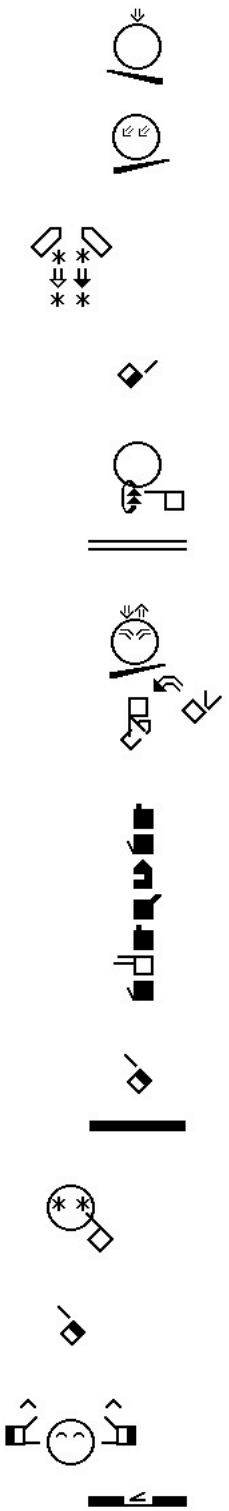
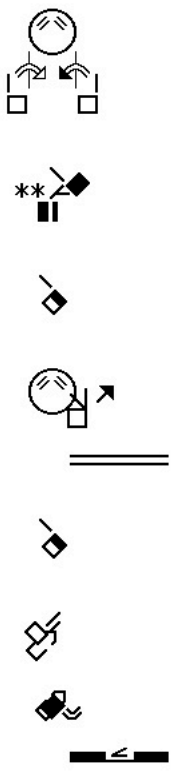
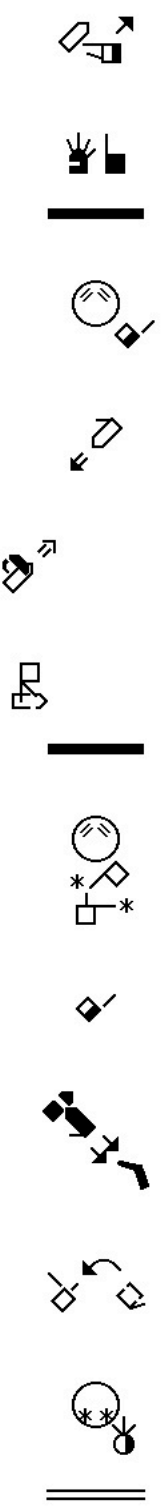
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She was always doing kind things for others and helping the poor. Verse 37. About this time she became ill and died. Her body was washed for burial and laid in an upstairs room. Verse 38. But the believers had heard that Peter was nearby at Lydda, so NLT

<p>ASL signs for 'they sent two men to beg him, 'Please come as soon as possible!''</p>	<p>ASL signs for 'So Peter returned with them; and as soon as he arrived, they took him to the upstairs room.'</p>	<p>ASL signs for 'The room was filled with widows who were weeping and showing him the coats and other clothes Dorcas had made for them.'</p>	<p>ASL signs for 'NLT'</p>
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they sent two men to beg him, "Please come as soon as possible!" Verse 39. So Peter returned with them; and as soon as he arrived, they took him to the upstairs room. The room was filled with widows who were weeping and showing him the coats and other clothes Dorcas had made for them.

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Verse 40. But Peter asked them all to leave the room; then he knelt and prayed. Turning to the body he said, "Get up, Tabitha." And she opened her eyes! When she saw Peter, she sat up! Verse 41. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then he called in the widows

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and all the believers, and he presented her to them alive. Verse 42. The news spread through the whole town, and many believed in the Lord. Verse 43. And Peter stayed a long time in Joppa, living with Simon, a tanner of hides.

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