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



























































Luke 1. Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. Verse 2. They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. Verse 3. Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also NLT

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have decided to write a careful account for you, most honorable Theophilus, Verse 4. so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught. Verse 5. When Herod was king of Judea, there was a Jewish priest named Zechariah. He was a member of the priestly order of Abijah, NLT

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and his wife, Elizabeth, was also from the priestly line of Aaron. Verse 6. Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous in God's eyes, careful to obey all of the Lord's commandments and regulations. Verse 7. They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old. NLT

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Verse 8. One day Zechariah was serving God in the Temple, for his order was on duty that week. Verse 9. As was the custom of the priests, he was chosen by lot to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. Verse 10. While the incense was being burned, a great crowd stood outside, praying. NLT

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Verse 11. While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar. Verse 12. Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him. Verse 13. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. NLT






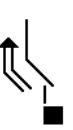









































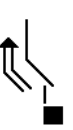








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Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John. Verse 14. You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, Verse 15. for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth. NLT





























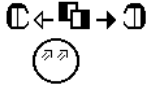


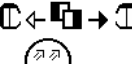




















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Verse 16. And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God. Verse 17. He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly. NLT











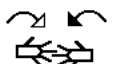
















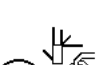


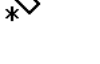



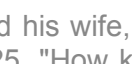












































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Verse 20. "But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time."
Verse 21. Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah to come out of the sanctuary, wondering why he was taking so long. NLT

            	            	            	            
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




















































Verse 22. When he finally did come out, he couldn't speak to them. Then they realized from his gestures and his silence that he must have seen a vision in the sanctuary. Verse 23. When Zechariah's week of service in the Temple was over, he returned home. NLT

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Verse 24. Soon afterward his wife, Elizabeth, became pregnant and went into seclusion for five months. Verse 25. "How kind the Lord is!" she exclaimed. "He has taken away my disgrace of having no children." Verse 26. In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel NLT

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










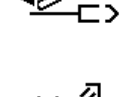


















to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, Verse 27. to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Verse 28. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" NLT























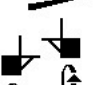
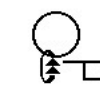











             	             	             	             
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Verse 29. Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. Verse 30. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God!" Verse 31. "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus." Verse 32. "He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. NLT









































































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The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David." Verse 33. "And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" Verse 34. Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." Verse 35. The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you," NLT

           	           	            
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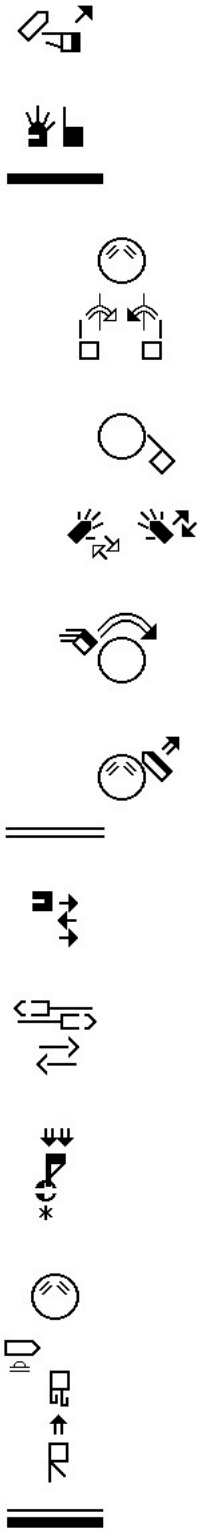

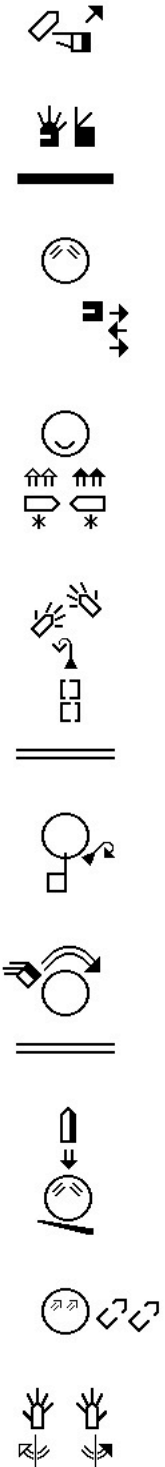
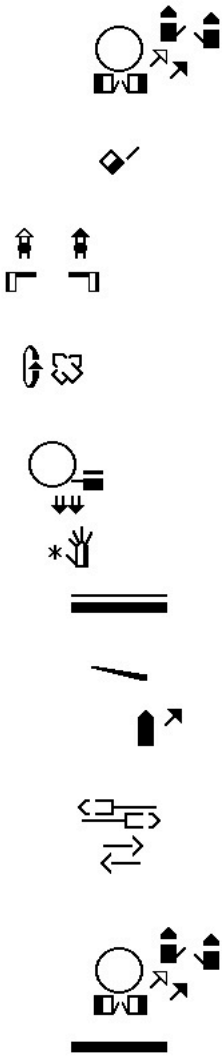
        	          	    	         
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and he will be called the Son of God. Verse 36. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she's now in her sixth month. Verse 37. For nothing is impossible with God." NLT

                 	                 	                 	                 
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Verse 38. Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. Verse 39. A few days later Mary hurried to the hill country of Judea, to the town where Zechariah lived. She entered the house and greeted Elizabeth.

NLT

			
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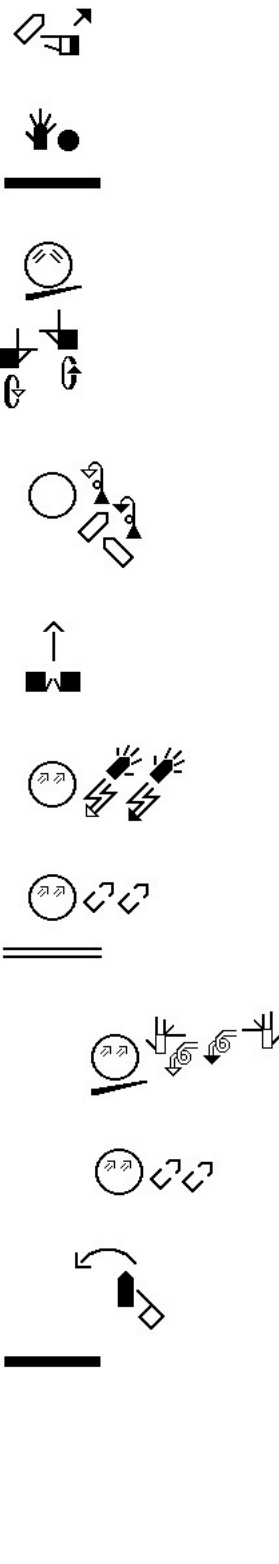
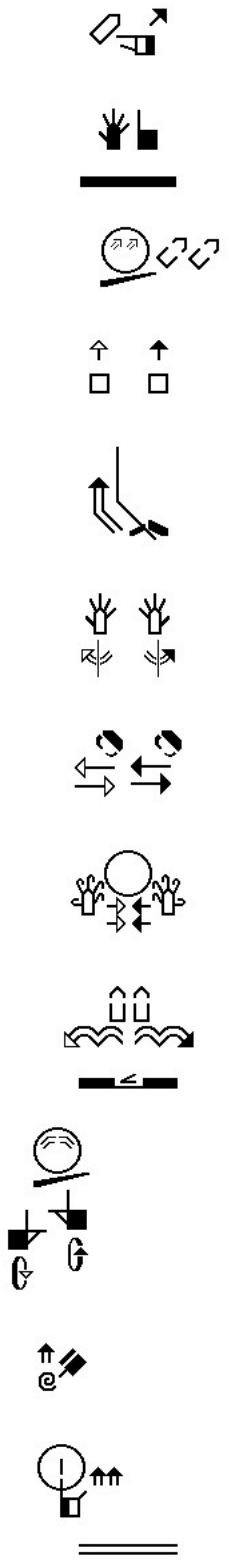

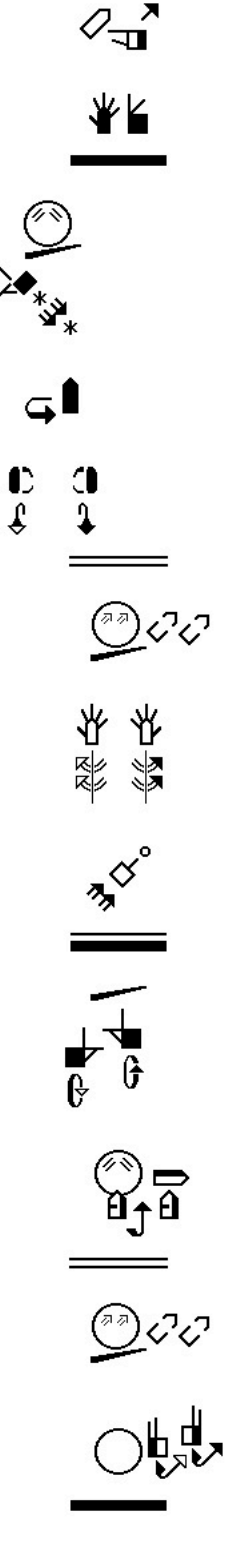
Verse 41. At the sound of Mary's greeting, Elizabeth's child leaped within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Verse 42. Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, "God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed. NLT

Verse 43. Why am I so honored, that the mother of my Lord should visit me? Verse 44. When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. Verse 45. You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said." Verse 46. Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. NLT

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Verse 47. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior! Verse 48. For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. Verse 49. For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me.

NLT

			
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Verse 50. He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him. Verse 51. His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones. Verse 52. He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble.

NLT

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Verse 53. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. Verse 54. He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful. Verse 55. For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever."

NLT

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Verse 56. Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back to her own home. Verse 57. When it was time for Elizabeth's baby to be born, she gave birth to a son. Verse 58. And when her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had been very merciful to her, everyone rejoiced with her. Verse 59. When the baby was eight days old,

the circumcision ceremony. They wanted to name him Zechariah, after his father. Verse 60. But Elizabeth said, "No! His name is John!" Verse 61. "What?" they exclaimed. "There is no one in all your family by that name." Verse 62. So they used gestures to ask the baby's father what he wanted to name him.

NLT

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Verse 63. He motioned for a writing tablet, and to everyone's surprise he wrote, "His name is John." Verse 64. Instantly Zechariah could speak again, and he began praising God. Verse 65. Awe fell upon the whole neighborhood, and the news of what had happened spread throughout the Judean hills. Verse 66. Everyone who heard about it

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Verse 70. just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago. Verse 71. Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. Verse 72. He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant -- Verse 73. the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham.

NLT

NLT

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Verse 77. You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins.
Verse 78. Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to
break upon us, Verse 79. to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of
death, and to guide us to the path of peace." NLT

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Verse 80. John grew up and became strong in spirit. And he lived in the wilderness until he began his public ministry to Israel.

NLT