

**Luke 8.** Soon afterward Jesus began a tour of the nearby towns and villages, preaching and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He took his twelve disciples with him, Verse 2. along with some women he had healed and from whom he had cast out evil spirits. Among them were Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven

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Verse 3. Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's business manager; Susanna; and many others who were contributing their own resources to support Jesus and his disciples. Verse 4. One day Jesus told a story to a large crowd that had gathered from many towns to hear him:

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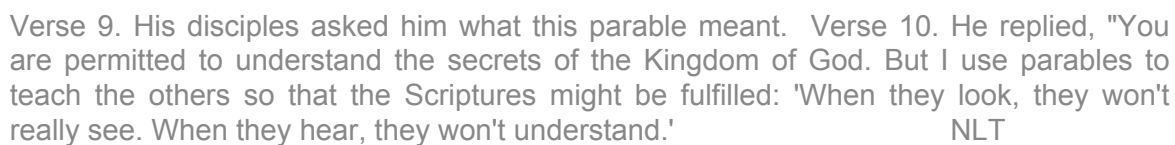
Verse 5. "A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds ate it. Verse 6. Other seed fell among rocks. It began to grow, but the plant soon wilted and died for lack of moisture.

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


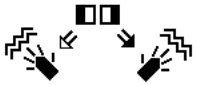

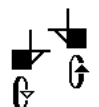
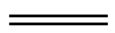



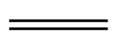






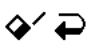






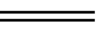

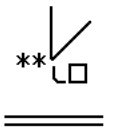










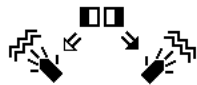

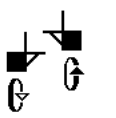


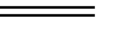
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Verse 7. Other seed fell among thorns that grew up with it and choked out the tender plants. Verse 8. Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop that was a hundred times as much as had been planted!" When he had said this, he called out, "Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand."

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Verse 13. The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation. Verse 14. The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message,

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but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity. Verse 15. And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, goodhearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest.

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Verse 16. "No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house. Verse 17. For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed


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Verse 19. Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him, but they couldn't get to him because of the crowd. Verse 20. Someone told Jesus, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, and they want to see you." Verse 21. Jesus replied, "My mother and my brothers are

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all those who hear God's word and obey it." Verse 22. One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and started out. Verse 23. As they sailed across, Jesus settled down for a nap. But soon NLT

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a fierce storm came down on the lake. The boat was filling with water, and they were in real danger. Verse 24. The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and the raging waves. The storm stopped and all was calm!

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Verse 25. Then he asked them, "Where is you faith?" The disciples were terrified and amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "When he gives a command, even the wind and waves obey him!" Verse 26. So they arrived in the region of the Gerasenes, across the lake from Galilee.

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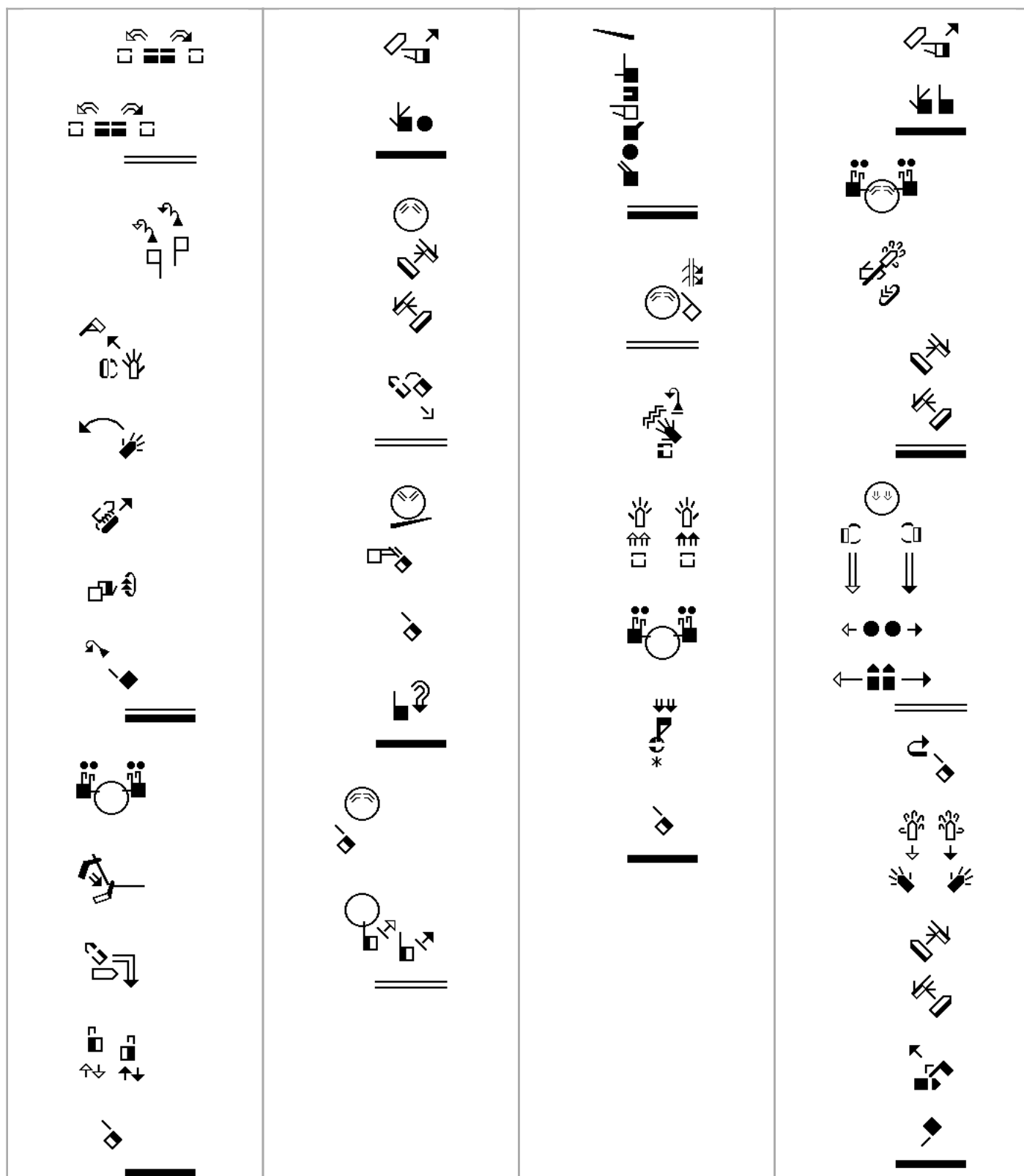
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Verse 27. As Jesus was climbing out of the boat, a man who was possessed by demons came out to meet him. For a long time he had been homeless and naked, living in a cemetery outside the town. Verse 28. As soon as he saw Jesus, he shrieked and fell down in front of him. Then he screamed, "Why are you interfering with me, Jesus,


Son of the Most High God? Please, I beg you, don't torture me!" Verse 29. For Jesus had already commanded the evil spirit to come out of him. This spirit had often taken control of the man. Even when he was placed under guard and put in chains and shackles, he simply









































































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broke them and rushed out into the wilderness, completely under the demon's power. Verse 30. Jesus demanded, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, for he was filled with many demons. Verse 31. The demons kept begging Jesus not to send them into the bottomless pit.

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Verse 32. There happened to be a large herd of pigs feeding on the hillside nearby, and the demons begged him to let them enter into the pigs. So Jesus gave them permission. Verse 33. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the entire herd plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned. NLT


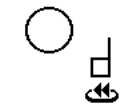


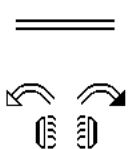
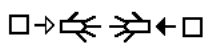























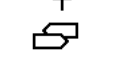








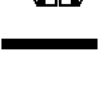









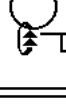

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Verse 34. When the herdsmen saw it, they fled to the nearby town and the surrounding countryside, spreading the news as they ran. Verse 35. People rushed out to see what had happened. A crowd soon gathered around Jesus, and they saw the man who had been freed from the demons. He was sitting

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at Jesus' feet, fully clothed and perfectly sane, and they were all afraid. Verse 36. Then those who had seen what happened told the others how the demon-possessed man had been healed. Verse 37. And all the people in the region of the Gerasenes begged Jesus to go away

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and leave them alone, for a great wave of fear swept over them. So Jesus returned to the boat and left, crossing back to the other side of the lake. Verse 38. The man who had been freed from the demons begged to go with him. But Jesus sent him home, saying, NLT

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Verse 39. "No, go back to your family, and tell them everything God has done for you." So he went all through the town proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him. Verse 40. On the other side of the lake the crowds welcomed Jesus, because they had been waiting for him.

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Verse 41. Then a man named Jairus, a leader of the local synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come home with him. Verse 42. His only daughter, who was twelve years old, was dying. As Jesus went with him, he was surrounded by the crowds.




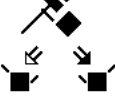















































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Verse 49. While he was still speaking to her, a messenger arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. He told him, "Your daughter is dead. There's no use troubling the Teacher now." Verse 50. But when Jesus heard what had happened, he said to Jairus, "Don't

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"Stop the weeping! She isn't dead; she's only asleep." Verse 53. But the crowd laughed at him because they all knew she had died. Verse 54. Then Jesus took her by the hand and said in a loud voice, "My child, get up!" Verse 55. And at that moment her life returned, and she immediately stood up! Then

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