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Luke 14. One Sabbath day Jesus went to eat dinner in the home of a leader of the Pharisees, and the people were watching him closely. Verse 2. There was a man there whose arms and legs were swollen. Verse 3. Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in religious law,

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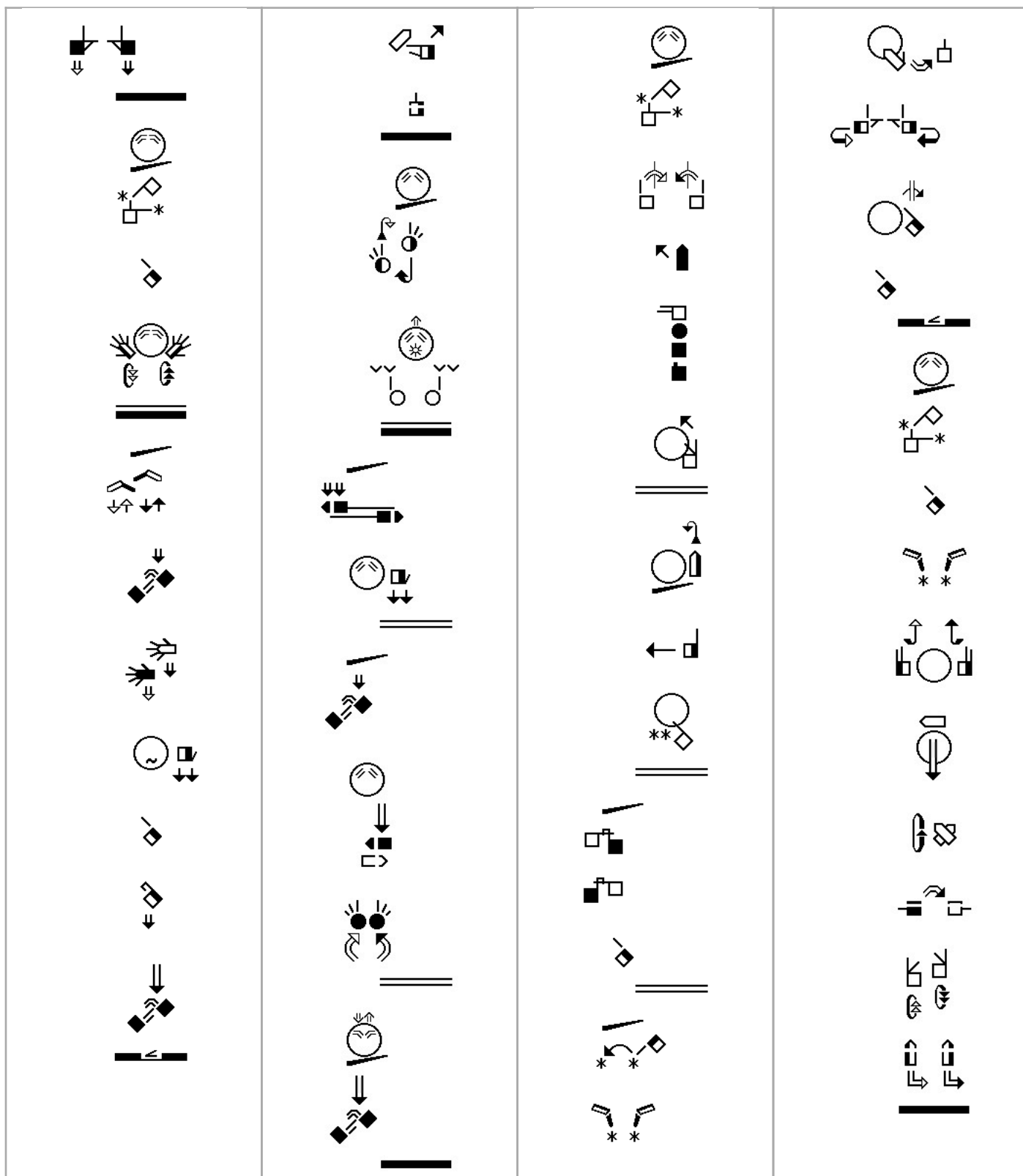
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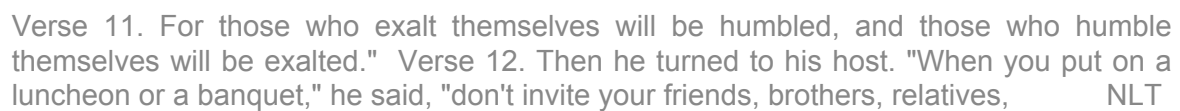
doesn't work on the Sabbath? If your son or your cow falls into a pit, don't you rush to get him out?" Verse 6. Again they could not answer. Verse 7. When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit in the seats of honor near the head of the table,

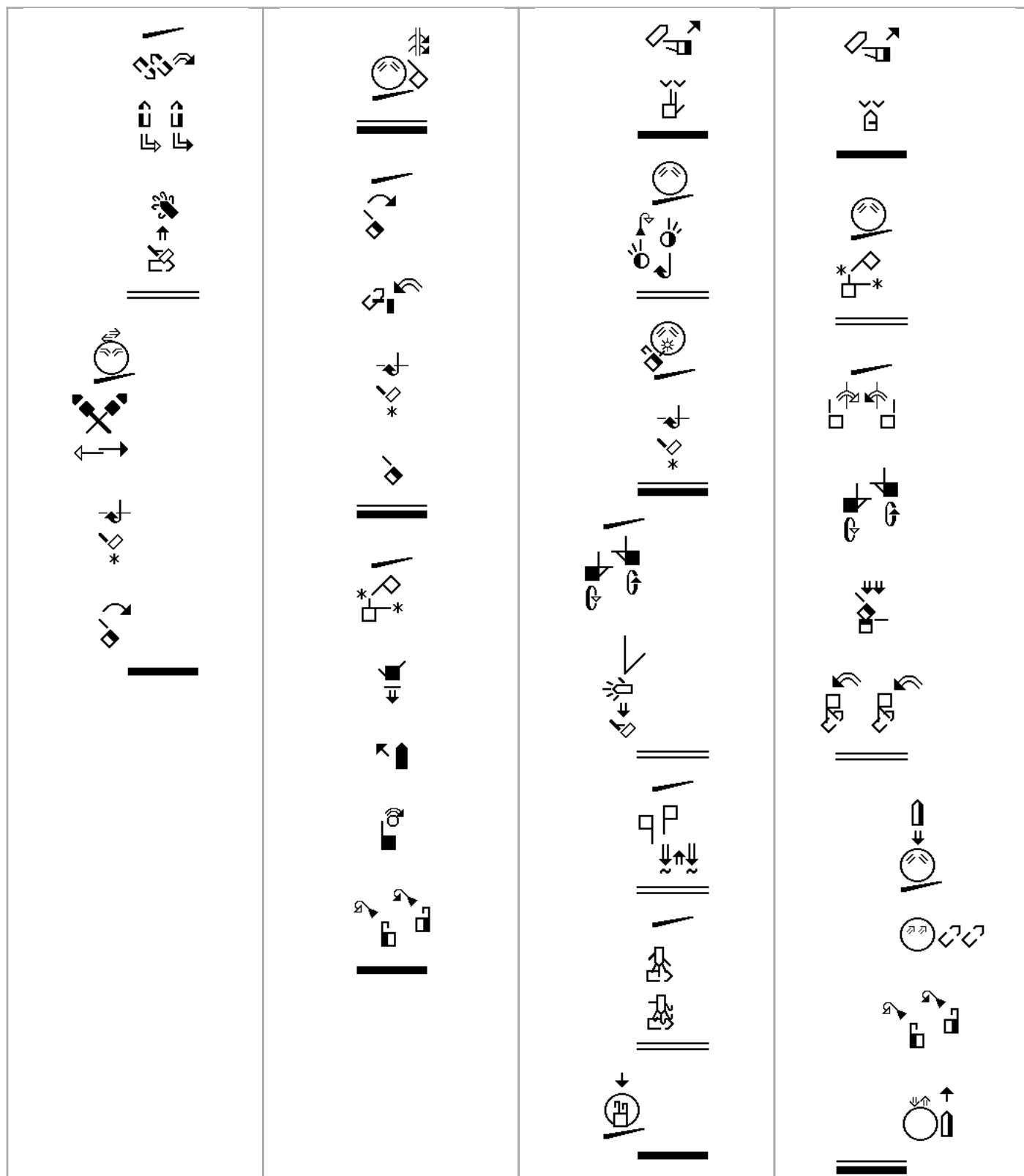
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335 he gave them this advice: Verse 8. "When you are invited to a wedding feast, don't sit in the seat of honor. What if someone who is more distinguished than you has also been invited? Verse 9. The host will come and say, 'Give this person your seat.' NLT














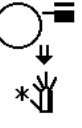




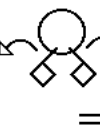

























Then you will be embarrassed, and you will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table! Verse 10. "Instead, take the lowest place at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, 'Friend, we have a better place for you!' Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests. NLT





and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward.  
 Verse 13. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Verse 14. Then  
 at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you

       	         	           	           
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339 for inviting those who could not repay you." Verse 15. Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!" Verse 16. Jesus replied with this story: "A man

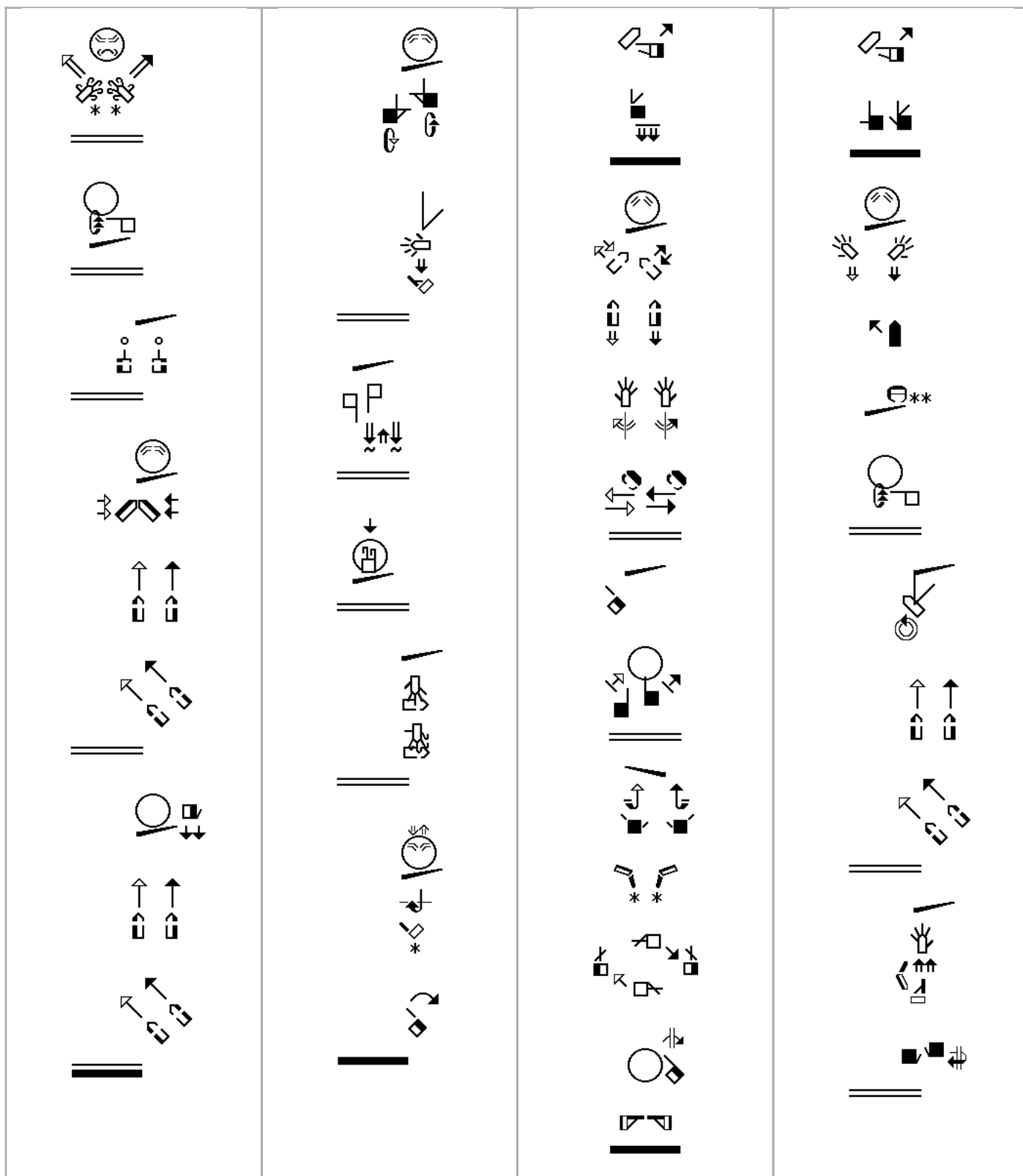
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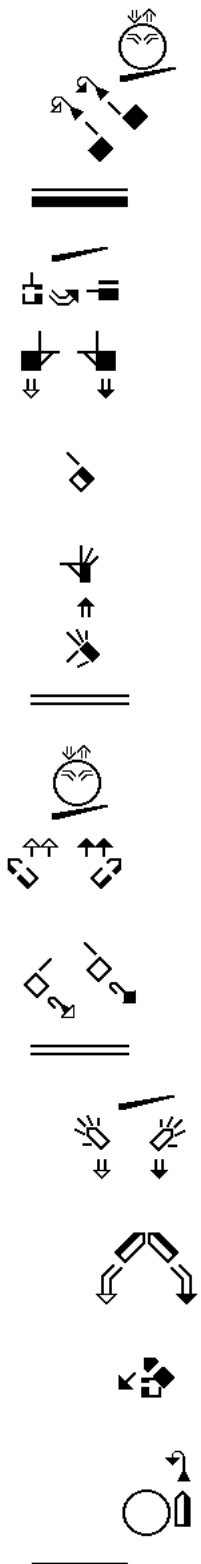


prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. Verse 17. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' Verse 18. But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field'


and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' Verse 19. Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Verse 20. Another said, 'I now have a wife, so I can't come.' Verse 21. "The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master

NLT



was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' Verse 22. After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.' Verse 23. So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges

			
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343 and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. Verse 24. For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet." Verse 25. A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, NLT

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Verse 26. "If you want to be my disciple, you must hate everyone else by comparison -- your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters -- yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. Verse 27. And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me,

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Verse 29. Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you. Verse 30. They would say, 'There's the person who started that building and couldn't afford to finish it!'

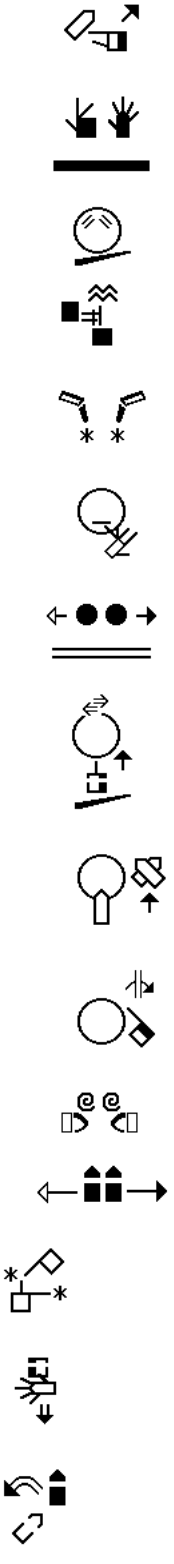
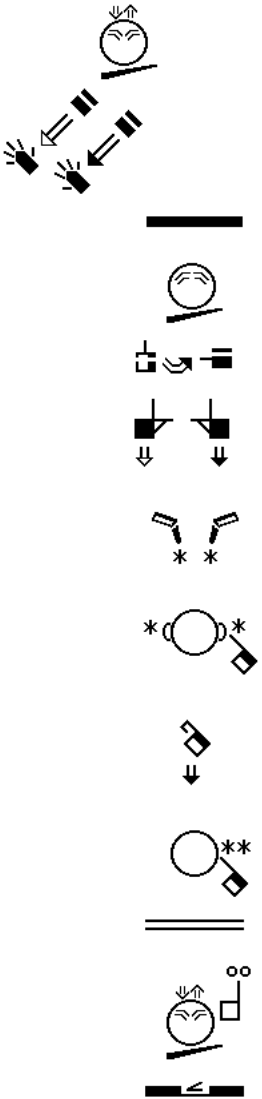
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Verse 31. "Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him? Verse 32. And if he can't, he will send a delegation to NLT



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