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Luke 15. Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. Verse 2. This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people -- even eating with them!

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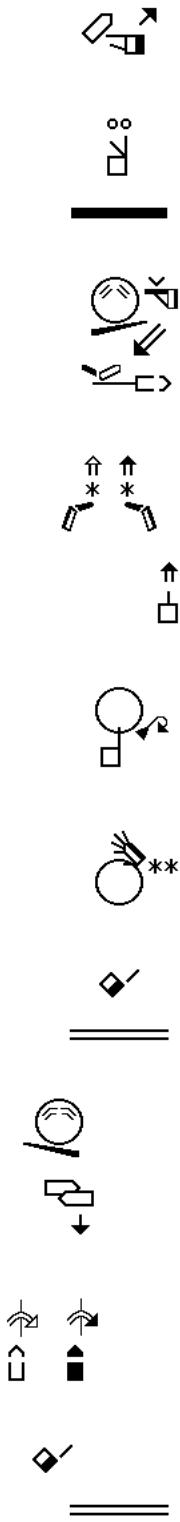
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Verse 5. And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. Verse 6. When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' Verse 7. In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God

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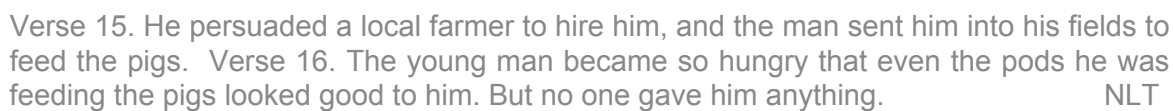
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Verse 11. To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons.  
 Verse 12. The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before  
 you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons.

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Verse 13. "A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. Verse 14. About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. NLT



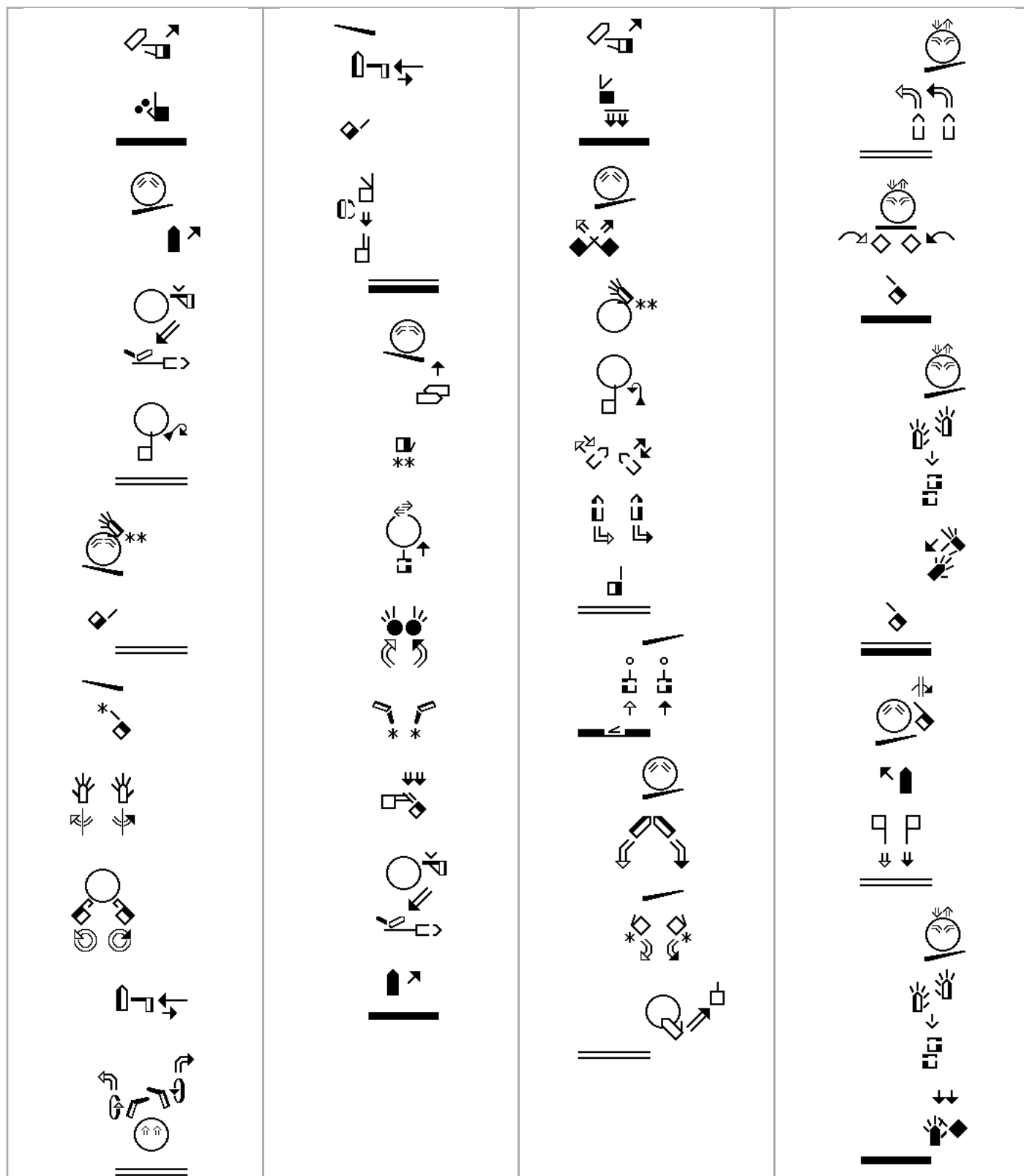
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Verse 17. "When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! Verse 18. I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, NLT

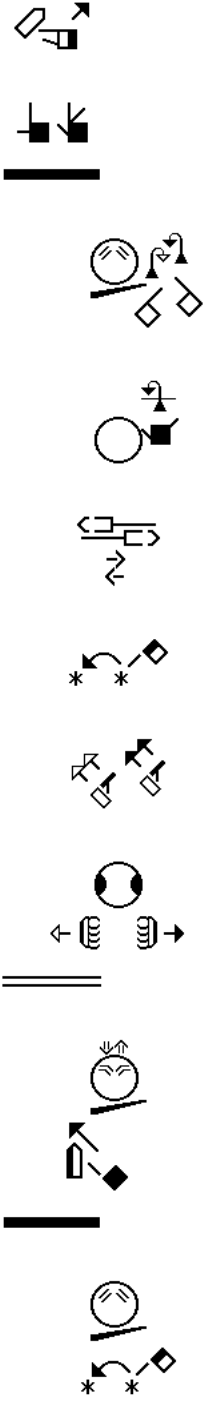
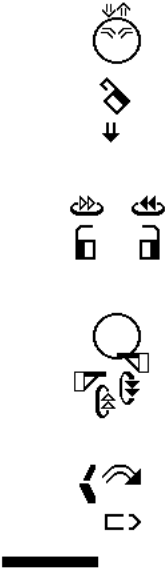

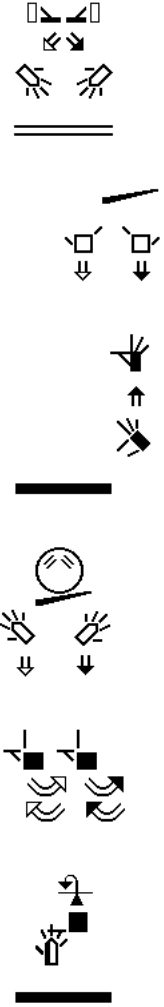
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Verse 19. and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant." Verse 20. "So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

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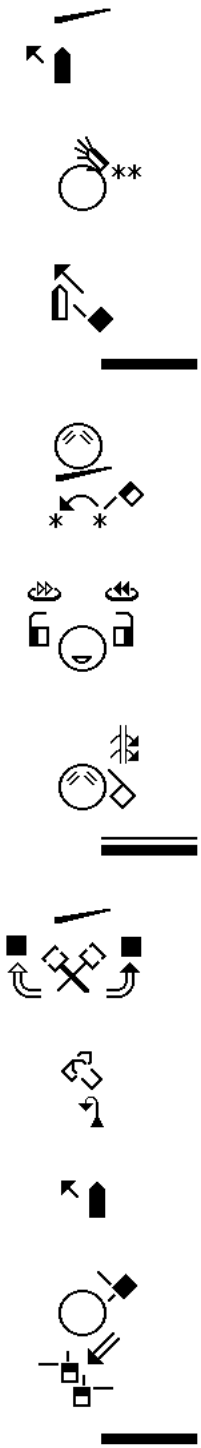
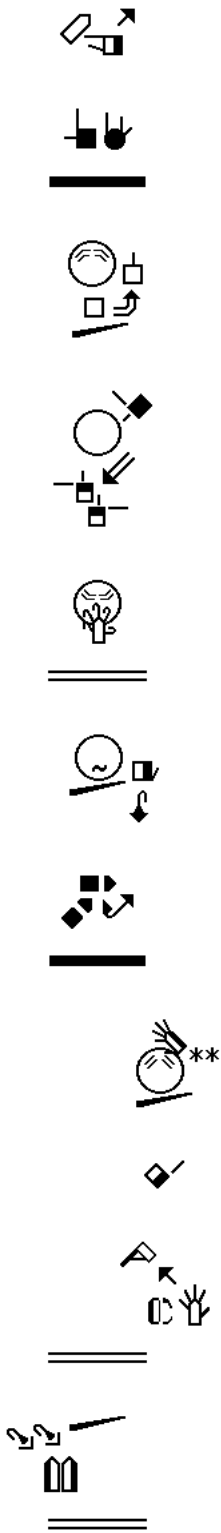
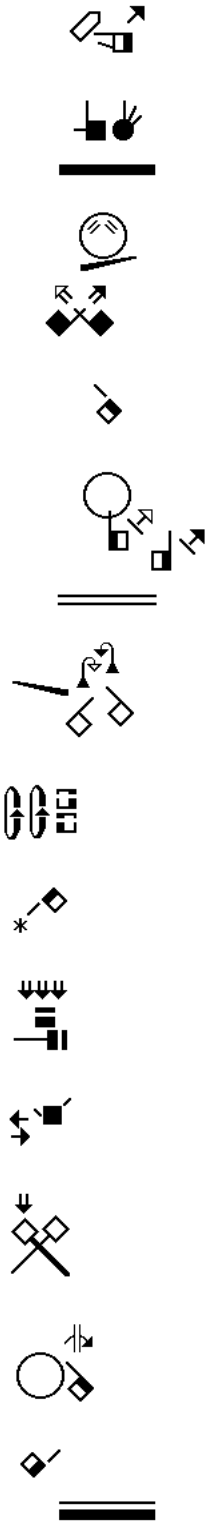

Verse 21. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.' Verse 22. "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet.

			
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Verse 23. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast. Verse 24. for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began.





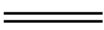
























































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Verse 25. "Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, Verse 26. and he asked one of the servants what was going on. Verse 27. 'Your brother is back,' he was told, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf. NLT

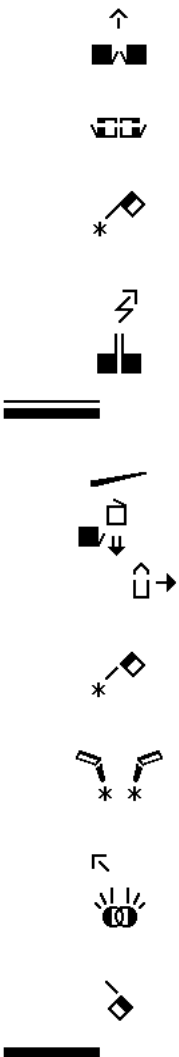
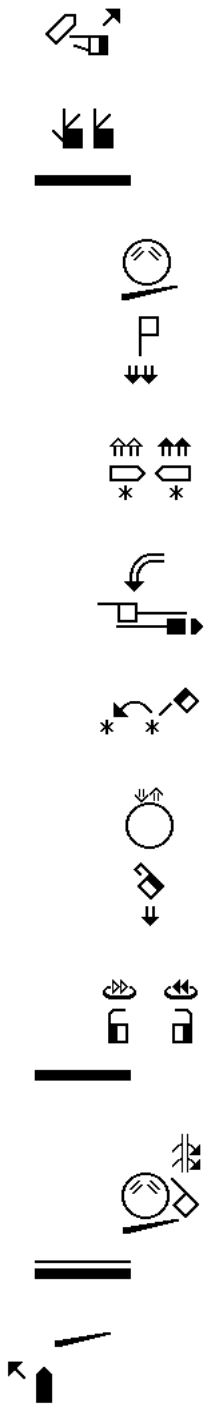
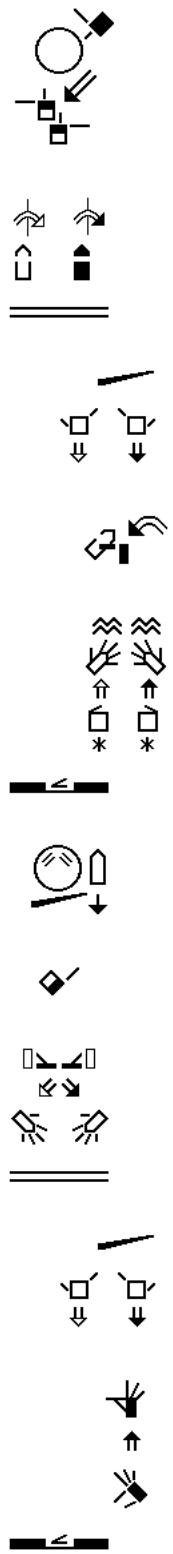
			
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We are celebrating because of his safe return.' Verse 28. "The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, Verse 29. but he replied, 'All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never

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gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. Verse 30. Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!' Verse 31. "His father said to him, 'Look, dear son, you have always

			
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