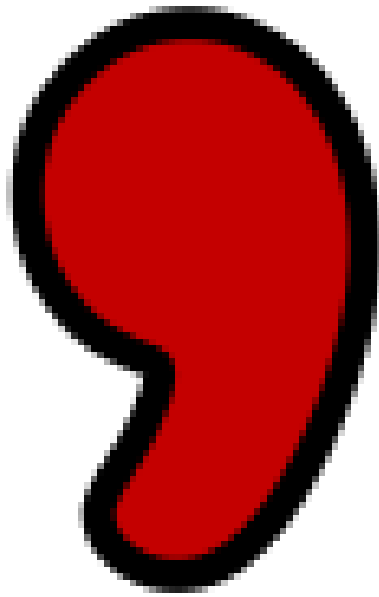


**THE LITTLE
COMMA THAT
COULD**



By Ted Adams

A JOYFUL BELL BOOK

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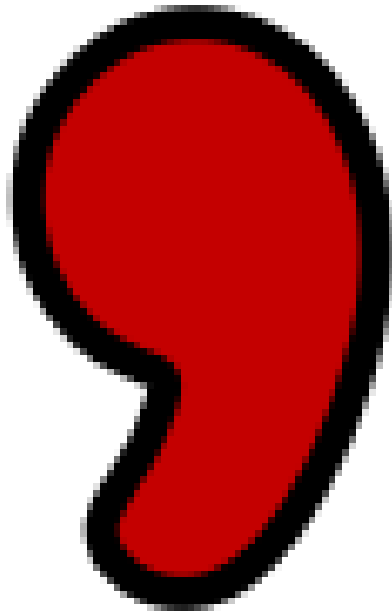
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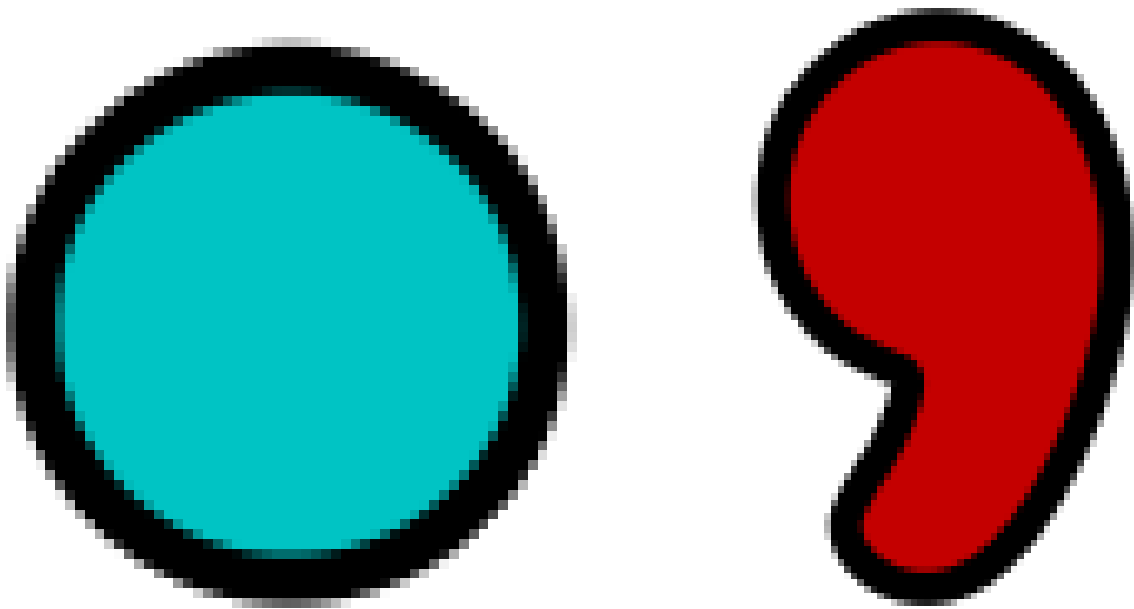
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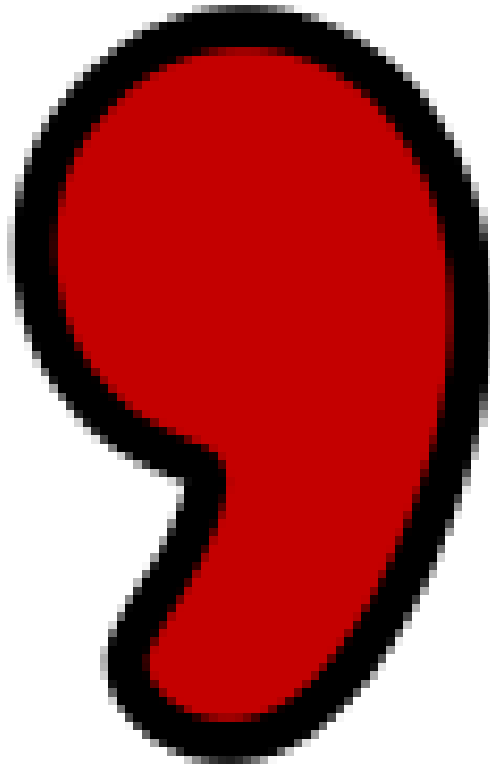
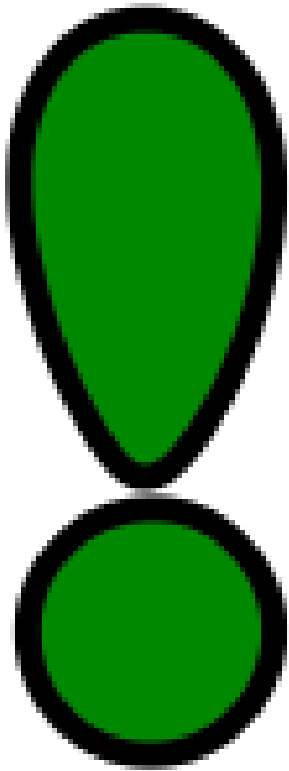
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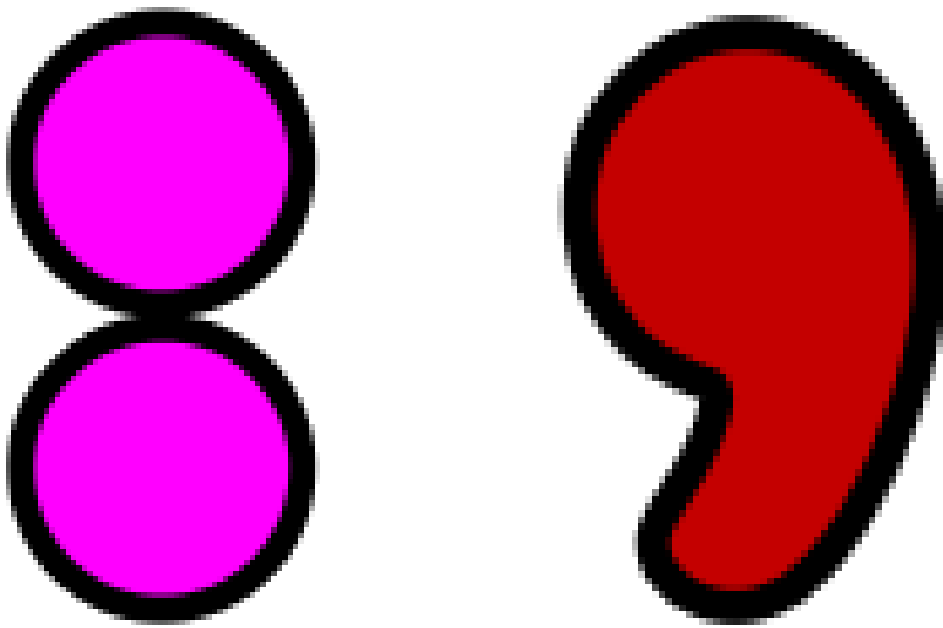
Comma was sad. It seemed like nobody appreciated him.



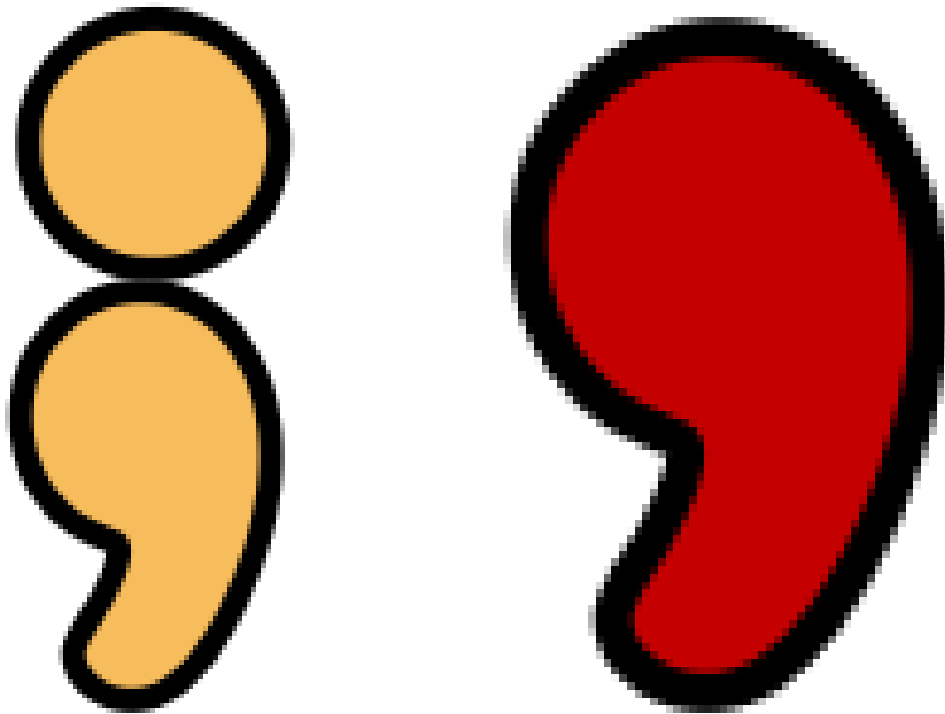
When he tried to talk to Period, Period said that Comma never finished anything.



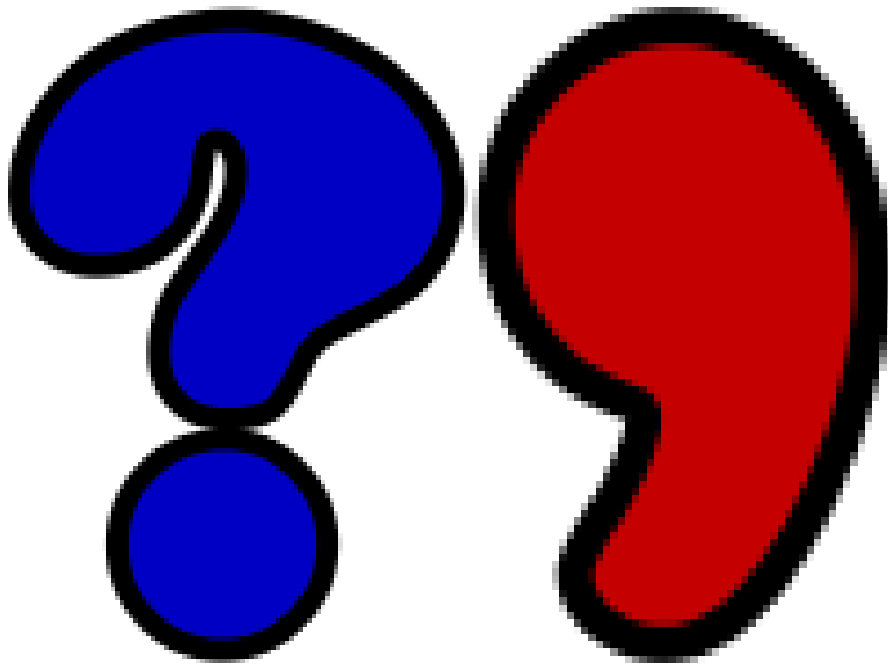
Exclamation Point said that Comma was not very bold.



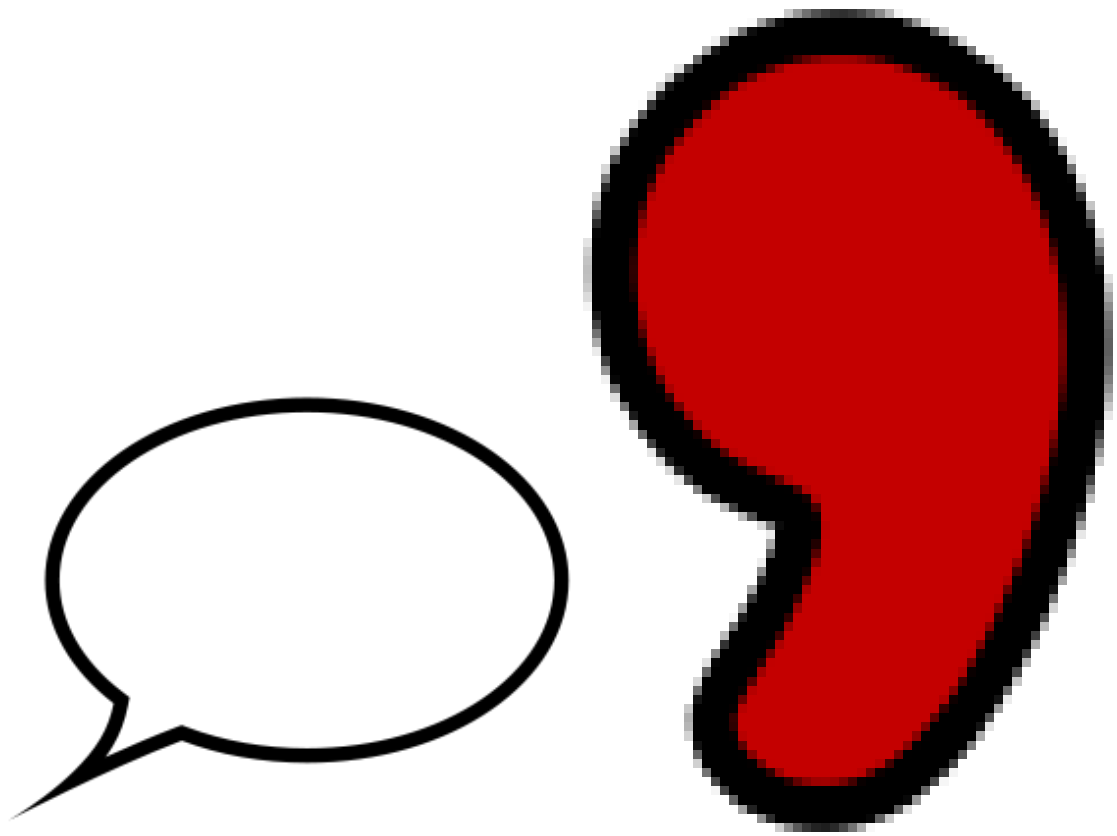
Colon stuck his nose up since Comma was not able to explain things.



Semicolon thought Comma was not able to join two ideas in a sentence together.



Question Mark always was at the end of a question and Comma never ended anything.



But then God said to Comma that He was going to use him to tell people that God was still speaking.



He could only do this because Comma was able to introduce what God was saying.

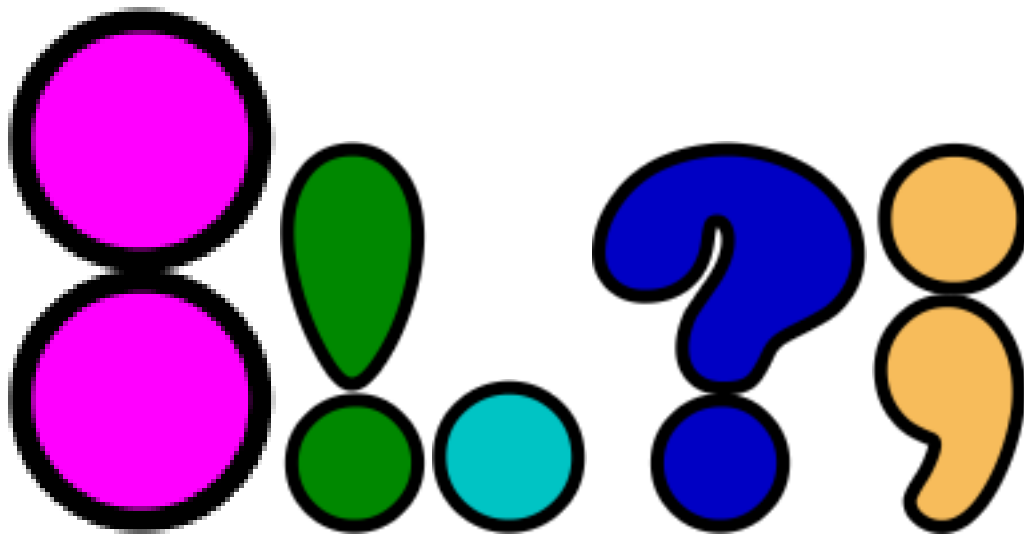


Comma did not finish things that God was doing or saying, but instead separated what God was saying from what God was doing or could be doing.

LIFE, GIFT, LOVE



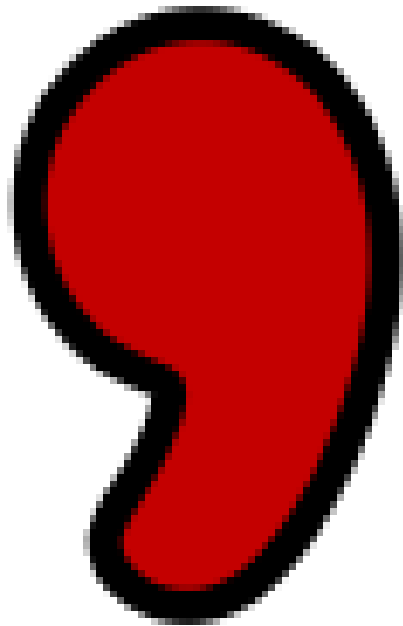
This talent to separate words so God could continue to speak means that people can know God continues to speak and is not finished.



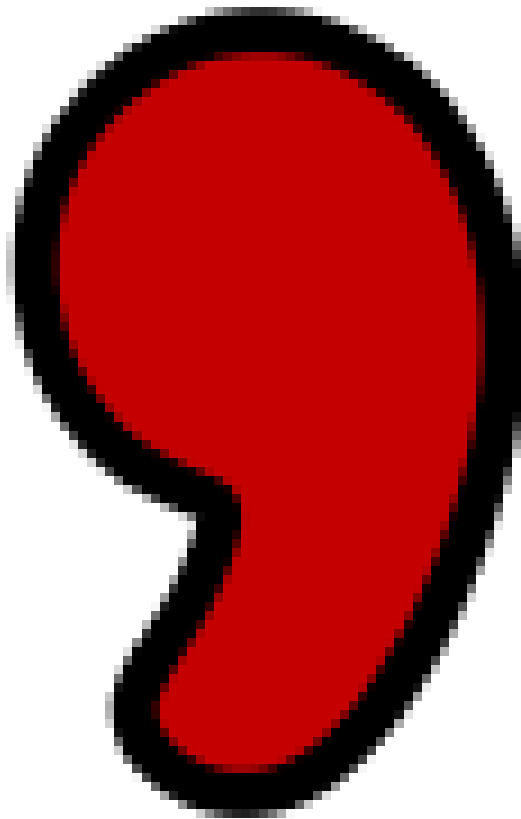
The other punctuation marks had their place and were important so people can know the message of God's love.



Sentences need to be finished, and questions asked, surprising points need made and things explained.



But Comma was the one who stood for God is still speaking.



So in all that God has been doing, Comma knew that God loved using him for sending out the message of love in Jesus.

Ted Adams is a local writer living in Arcata California. He is a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ. He is serving as a deacon and loves to give a Children's sermon on Sunday mornings from time to time. The idea for this little book comes from the United Church of Christ "God is still speaking" outreach ministry. The idea is not to put a period where God is still speaking, but a comma. This little book is for children of any age to help us all to remember that God still speaks in our lives every day.