

1



2

Devotion

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Genesis 12: 1-4, *NRSV*

- ◆ Ministry and life as a journey
- ◆ Stepping out in faith

3

My Hopes



- ◆ We pray
- ◆ We meet
- ◆ We discern a mission/vision in a form of a compelling story
- ◆ We discern next steps (worship, missions, outreach, discipleship) that are low stakes (unless we discern a BHAG)

4

My Hopes Continued

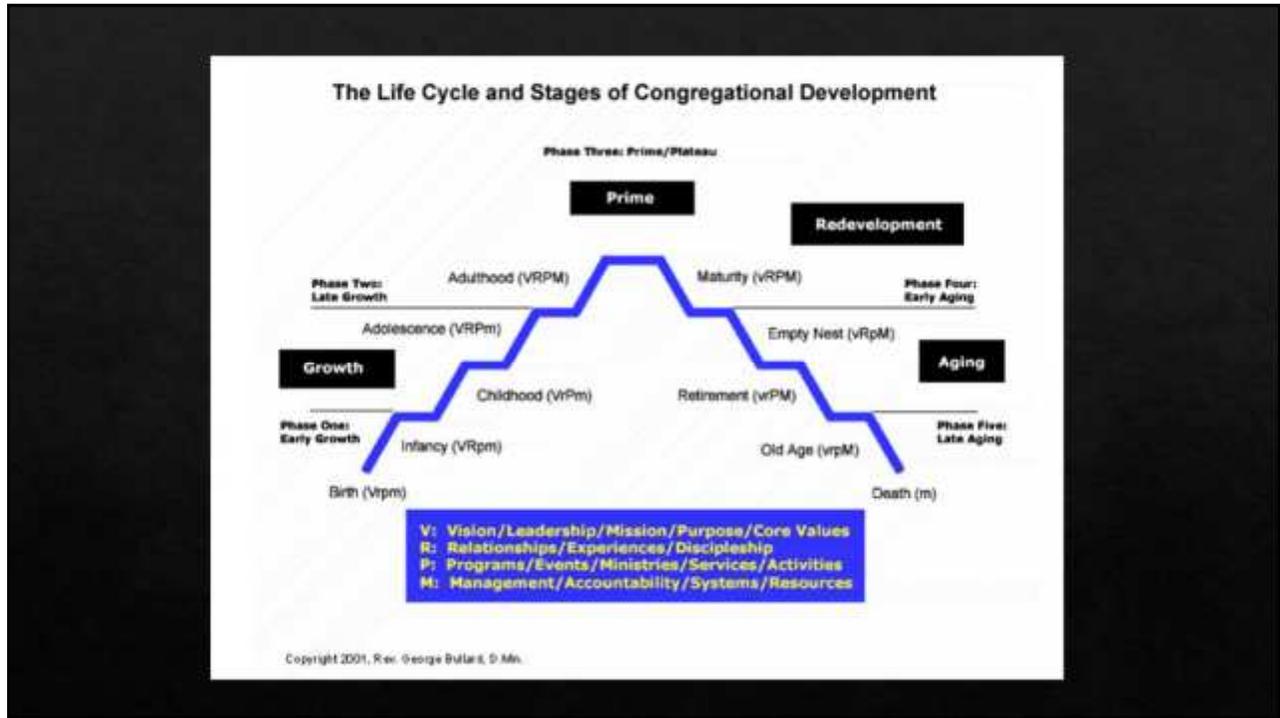
We discern a discipleship process
We discern a leadership training process
We thrive in God's purpose for us



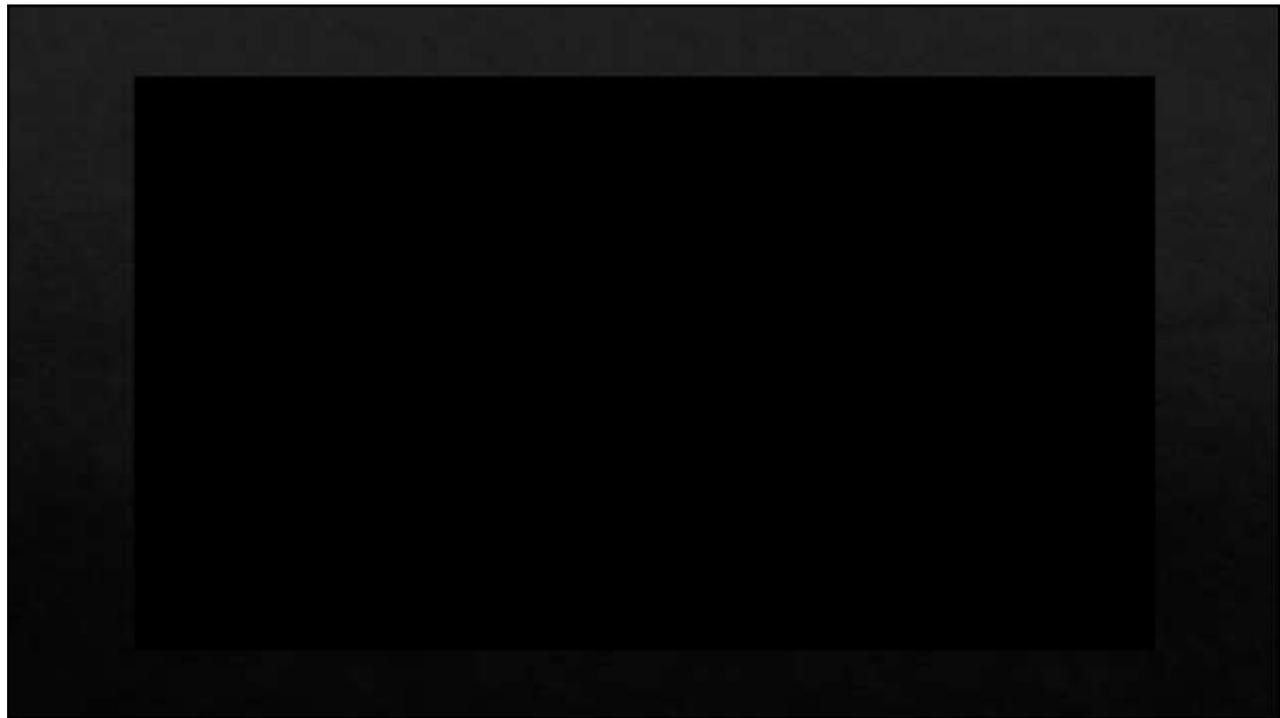
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Church Life Cycles

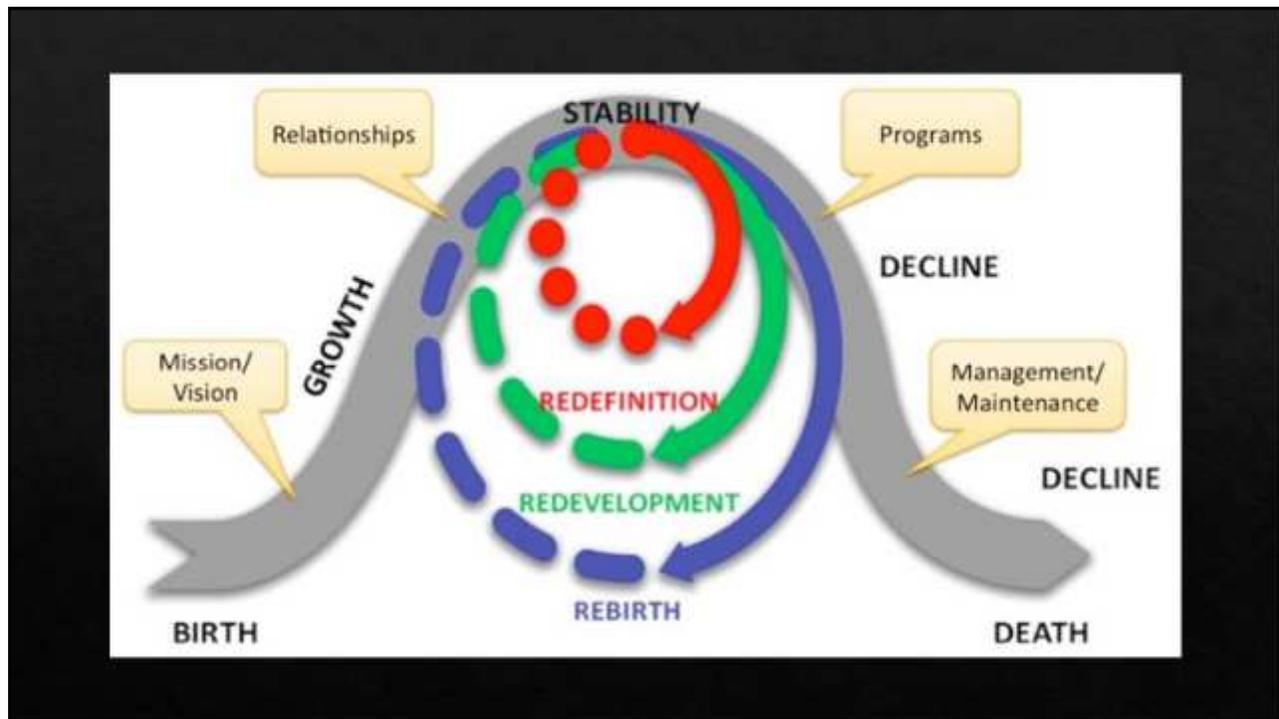
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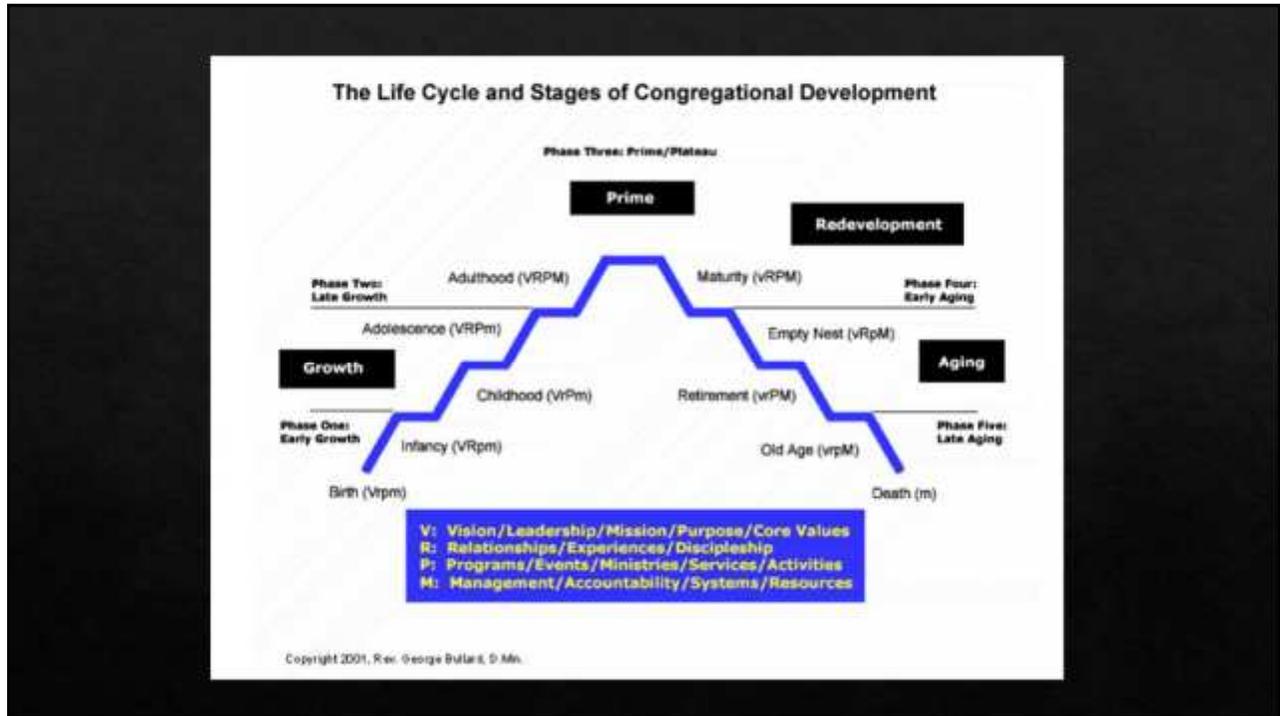
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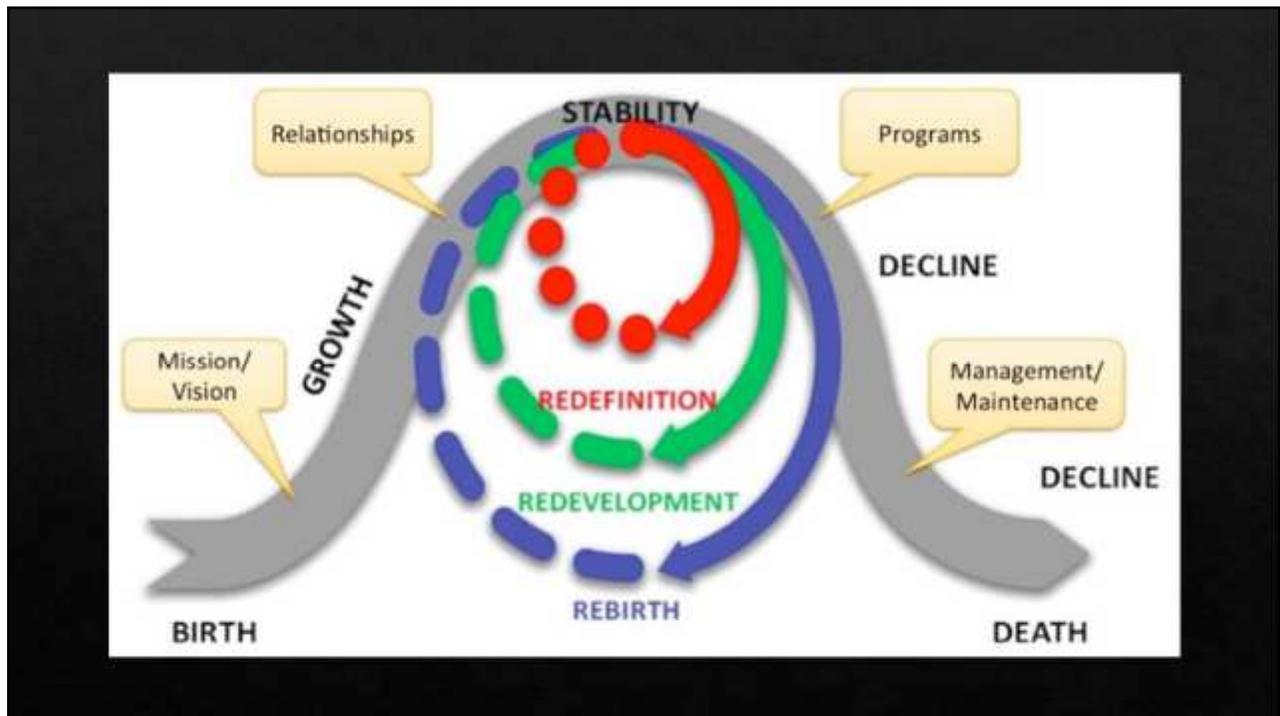
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Where are we on the church
lifecycle?

10



11



12



13



14

What are our weaknesses?

15

**“The place God calls you to is the place
where your deep gladness and the
world’s deep hunger meet.”**

Frederick Buechner in Wishful Thinking: a theological ABC

16



What are our opportunities?

17



What are our threats?

18

Are we willing to meet again?

19

Closing thought

Heb. 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. **9** By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. **10** For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God

NRSV

20

Closing Prayer