

# REVITALIZATION *Assessment*

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 2:7). This is Jesus’ refrain in His letters to the seven churches in the Book of Revelation. The Holy Spirit is still speaking to His Church today, admonishing her to engage in the mission of God. Yet many churches are struggling and discouraged.

**The goal of revitalization is to see God glorified as churches return to their mission of impacting lostness by making disciples.**

Dying churches do not reflect God’s heart! In Haggai 1:5, the Lord commands His people to consider their ways and return to His mission. In the same way, God’s people today must take stock of their ministries and their mission and return to the Lord’s purpose of becoming a healthy, disciple-making church.



## **Some common characteristics of healthy, disciple-making churches:**

1. There is a culture of sentness
2. Leaders equip and empower
3. Authentic community is present
4. Members are expressing passionate worship
5. Measurable disciples are being produced
6. Biblical doctrine and execution is apparent

## How would you describe your church?

(Choose one answer per set)

Discuss these questions with the leadership in your church to assess your current situation.

**1**

- A. Future-oriented
- B. Present-oriented
- C. Past-oriented

**2**

- A. Vision-driven
- B. Program-driven
- C. Structure-driven

**3**

- A. Focused on Your Community
- B. Focused on Your Congregation
- C. Focused on Core Group

**4**

- A. Innovative
- B. Routine
- C. Complacent

**5**

- A. Demonstrates High-risk Faith
- B. Demonstrates Low-risk Faith
- C. Demonstrates No-risk Faith

**6**

- A. Decisions Based on Faith
- B. Decisions Based on Available Resources
- C. Indecision

**7**

- A. Invests Finances for Mission
- B. Provides Finances for Ministry
- C. Preserves Finances for Maintenance

**8**

- A. Members Serve Based on Spiritual Gifts
- B. Members Serve Based on Programs of Church
- C. Members Serve Because No One Else Will Do It

**9**

- A. New Leadership
- B. Stagnant Leadership
- C. Entrenched Leadership

**10**

- A. Conversion Growth
- B. Transfer Growth
- C. No Growth

# Life Cycle of Churches



## Incline

Future-oriented  
Vision-driven  
Community Focus  
Innovative  
High-risk Faith  
Faith Decision  
\$ = Investor  
Serve by Gifts  
New Leadership  
Conversion Growth



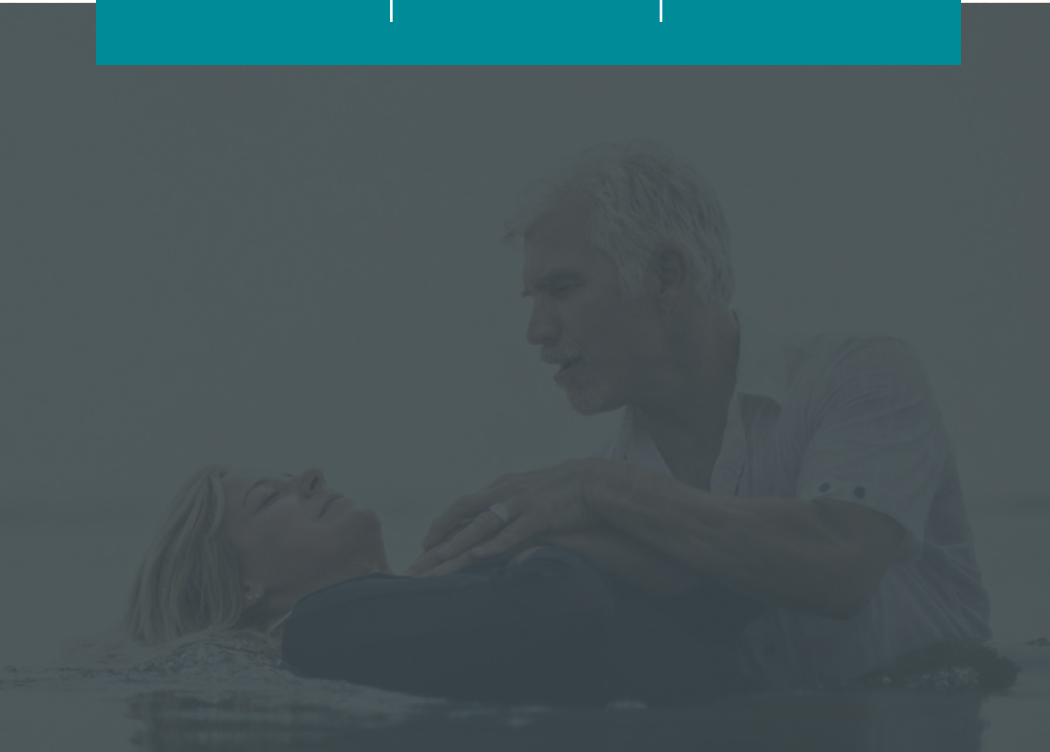
## Recline

Present-oriented  
Program-driven  
Congregation Focus  
Routine  
Low-risk Faith  
Resource Decision  
\$ = Provider  
Serve by Slot  
Stagnant Leadership  
Transfer Growth



## Decline

Past-oriented  
Structure-driven  
Core Focus  
Complacent  
No-risk Faith  
Indecision  
\$ = Preserver  
Serve by Default  
Incumbent Leadership  
No Growth



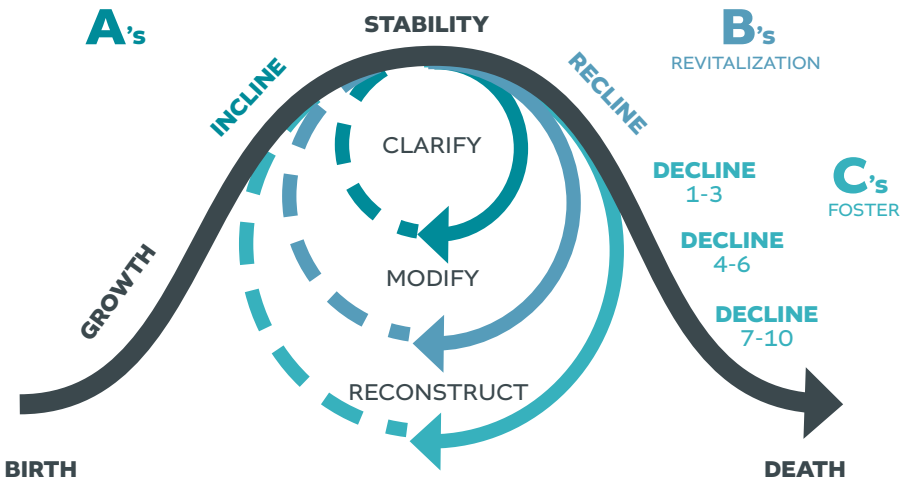
# My answers

1 _____	6 _____
2 _____	7 _____
3 _____	8 _____
4 _____	9 _____
5 _____	10 _____

Now, compare your answers with the chart on page 4.

- Your “A” answers correspond with “Incline”
- Your “B” answers correspond with “Recline”
- Your “C” answers correspond with “Decline”

More “B” and “C” answers indicate a need for some type of revitalization.



## start now

1

### Where am I?

Together with your key leaders, take the **assessment** on page 5 to determine your need for revitalization. This is a good opportunity to begin important conversations with leadership.

2

### What can I do?

Based on your responses, we'll continue the **conversation** about whether revitalization, fostering, adoption, marriage or replanting is God's plan for your church.

3

### When can I start?

There is hope for every church, but it requires hard, diligent work. Revitalization involves difficult decisions and wrestling with tough ideas. We'll walk you through a decision to **confirm** your commitment to the revitalization process.