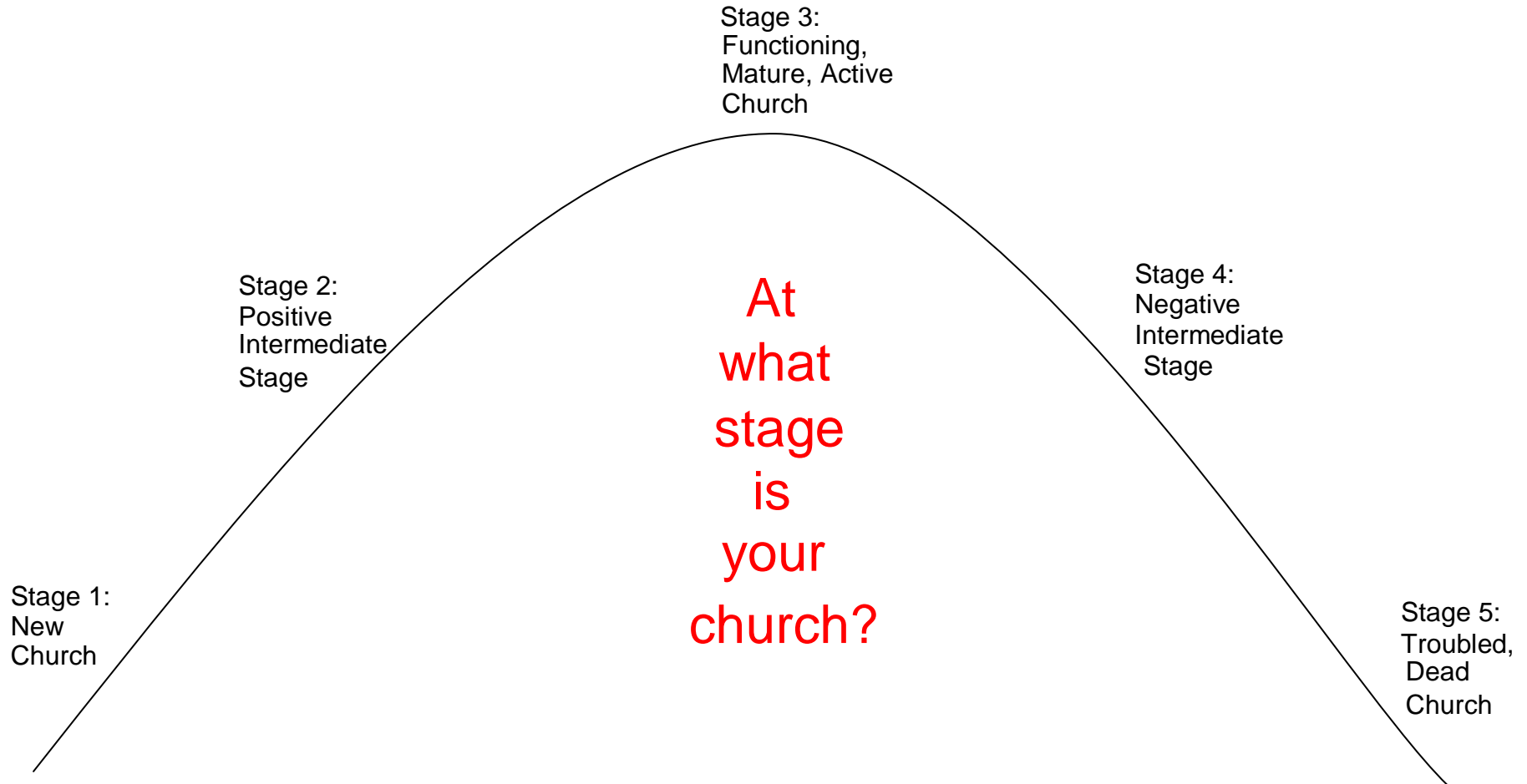


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<http://www.hillebrandministries.com/CompleteEnglishManualWithCovers.pdf>

# CHURCH LIFE CYCLE

Randy Hillebrand  
Dynamic Church of Eurasia



STAGE 1: New church (Acts 2; Acts 11:19-30)

- a. New converts through evangelism
- b. Baptisms are taking place
- c. Sense of awe and wonder at what God is doing in their midst
- d. Close fellowship and concern for one another
- e. More converts are added to their number
- f. The Holy Spirit is actively working

STAGE 2: Positive intermediate stage

- a. Believers are being disciplined in the faith
- b. Leaders are being trained to lead the church
- c. New converts are being added
- d. The church is growing spiritually and numerically
- e. The Holy Spirit is actively working

STAGE 3: Functioning, mature, active church (Acts 13:1-3)

- a. Established church leaders in place
- b. Multiple ministries taking place
- c. Sending out missionaries to begin new churches
- d. The Holy Spirit is actively working

STAGE 4: Negative intermediate stage

- a. Church is losing its vision of why it exists
- b. Priorities are changing from loving and serving Christ to fulfilling personal desires
- c. Church is focused inward at its needs and not outward toward the needs of others
- d. Reminiscences and talks about the good old days because nothing of any significance is happening
- e. The Holy Spirit is being grieved and quenched

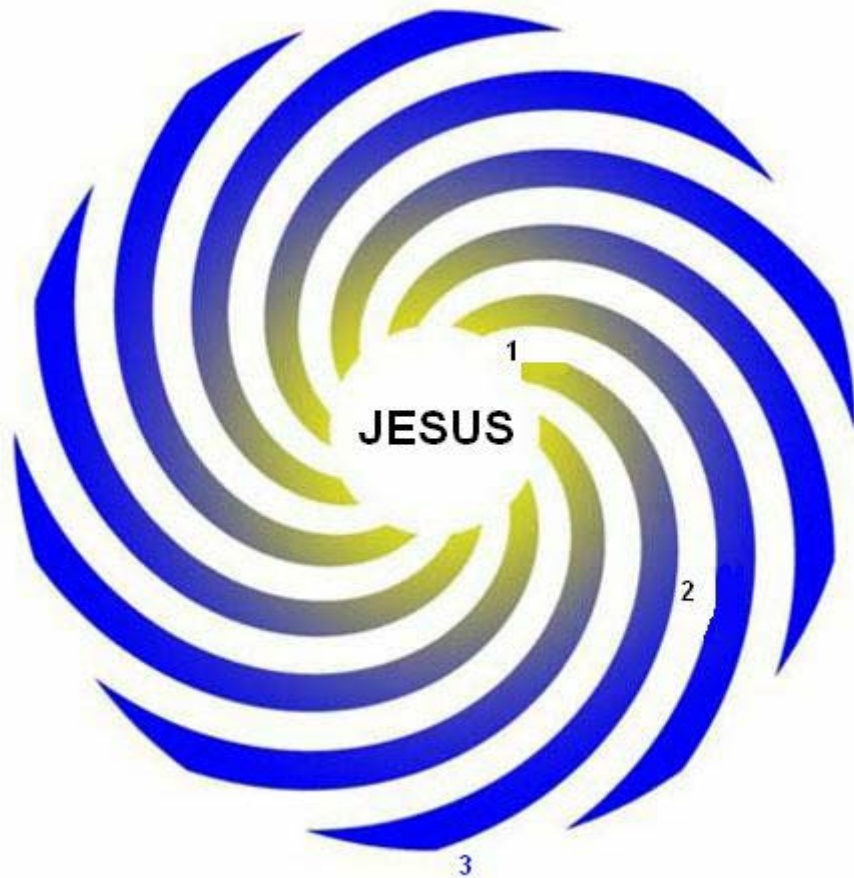
STAGE 5: Troubled, dead church (Rev. 2:1-7; 3:14-22)

- a. Busy doing things in the flesh
- b. Not loving Christ nor serving Him
- c. No fellowship with Christ
- d. Close to being disregarded by Christ
- e. The Holy Spirit is grieved and quenched

## HOW DO YOU KEEP YOUR CHURCH ALIVE?

1. All of the characteristics of stages one, two and three must be prevalent in your church once it has reached maturity.
2. Your church needs to continue spawning stage one activity at all times. As this is being accomplished, the new converts which result from this activity need to be eventually moved onto stages two and three.
3. Your church as a whole must work hard at never entering stage 4 (even though some members of your church will eventually enter stages 4 and 5 due to a lack of spiritual growth).

## HOW YOUR CHURCH CYCLE SHOULD LOOK



## HOW YOUR CHURCH CYCLE SHOULD NOT LOOK

