

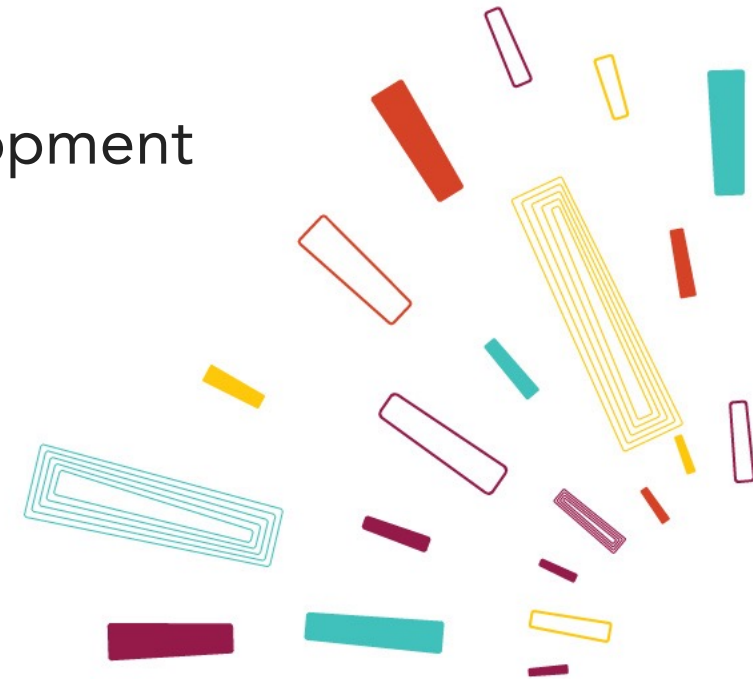
# Kijiji: The Church's Contemporary Rites of Passage

Muhia Karianjahi, Ph.D

HoneyRock. Center for Leadership Development  
Wheaton College



WHEATON  
COLLEGE  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
*For Christ & His Kingdom*



# you first...

Think of a memorable transition in your life

- From what to what?
- What went well?
- What do you wish had gone differently?



# Change vs Transitions

“It isn’t the changes that do you in, it’s the transitions. They aren’t the same thing. Change is situational: ... Transition, on the other hand, is the psychological process people go through to come to terms with the new situation”

William Bridges *Transitions: Making Sense of Life’s Changes*

## Rites of passage

... rituals that facilitate transitions from one stage of life to another (...**as defined by community**).



# Rites of Passage

“Rites of passage are a category of **rituals** that mark the passage of a person through the life cycle, **from one stage to another** over time, from one role or social position to another, integrating **the human and cultural experiences** with biological destiny: birth, reproduction, and death. These ceremonies make the basic distinctions, observed in all groups, between young and old, male and female, living and dead.”

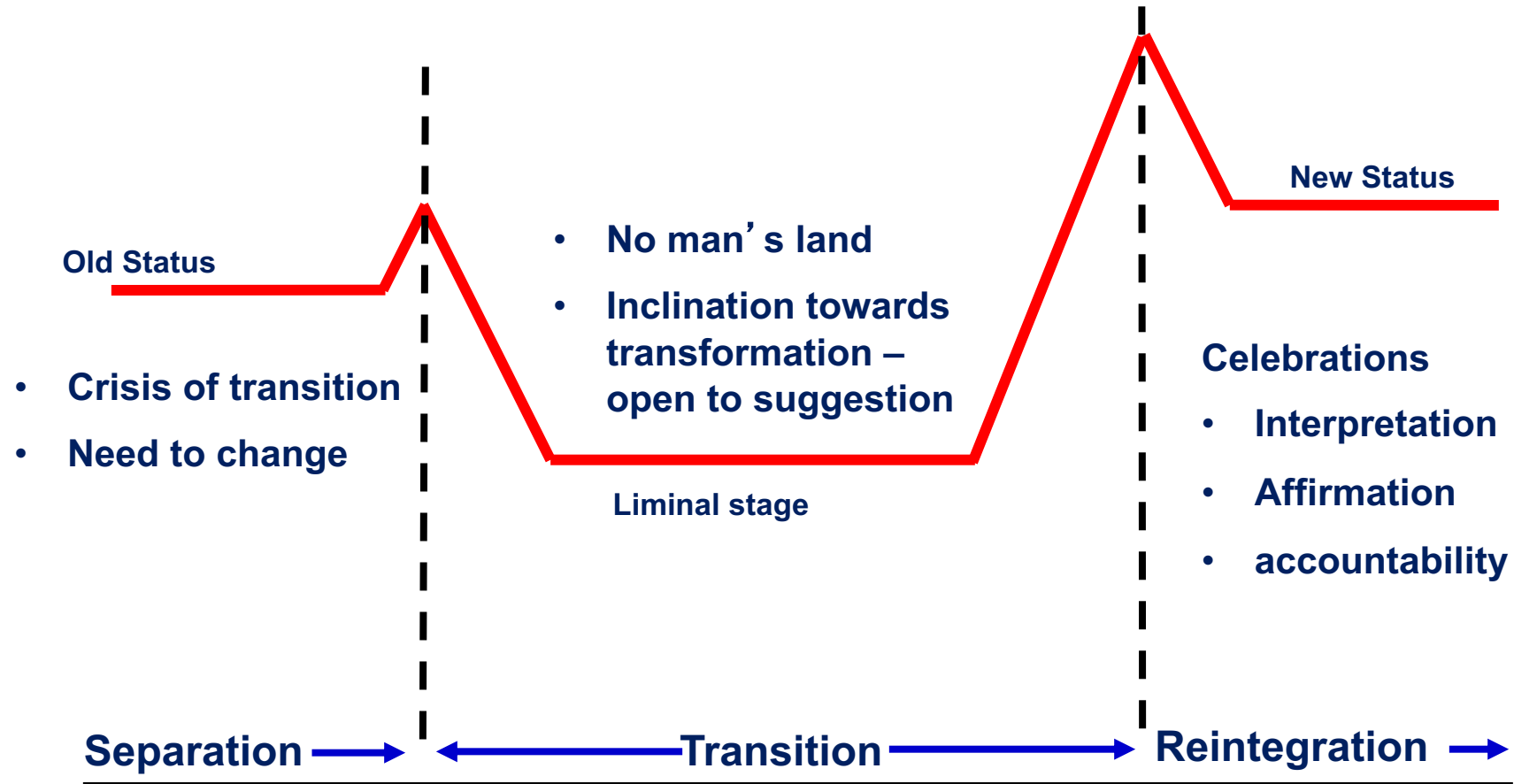
Mircea Eliade

*The encyclopedia of religion*



# Rites of Passage

*Arnold Van-Gennep*



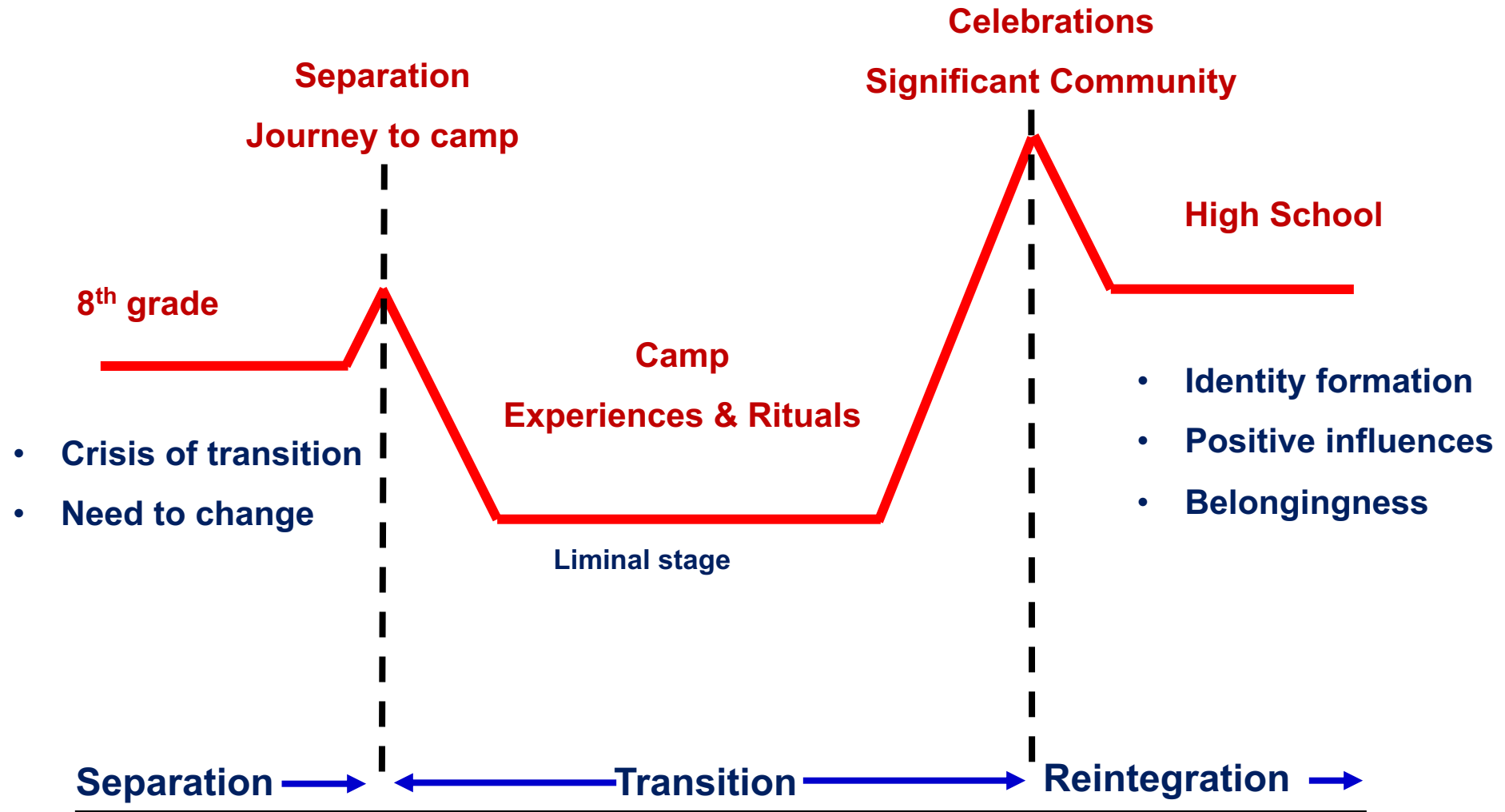
# Kijiji – Facilitative Community

*“It takes a village to raise a child”*

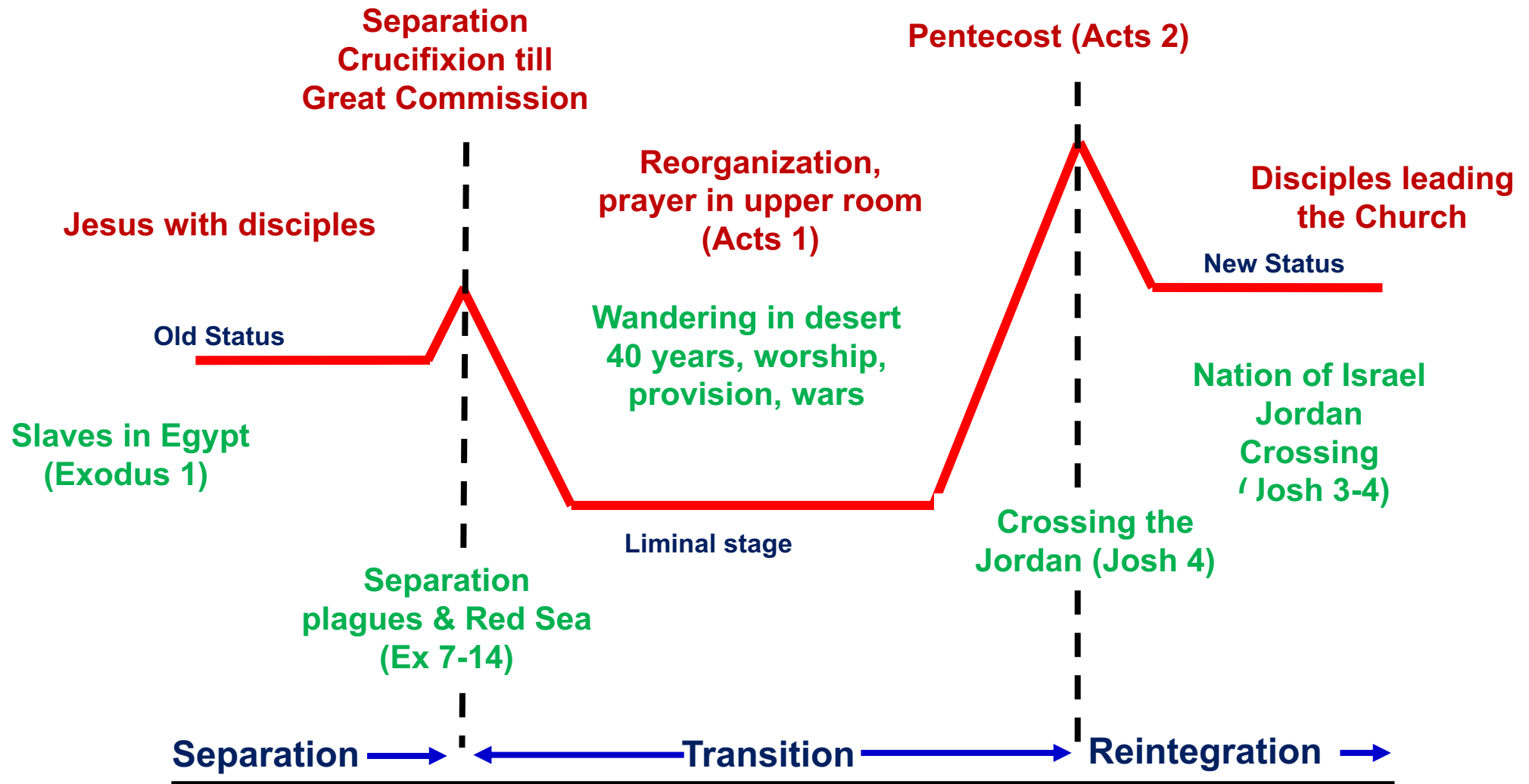
1. Context – worldview mediator
2. Counselor/coach – facilitators
3. *Communitas*- cohort
4. Cloud of witnesses - crowd  
- Interpretive Community



# ROPES program

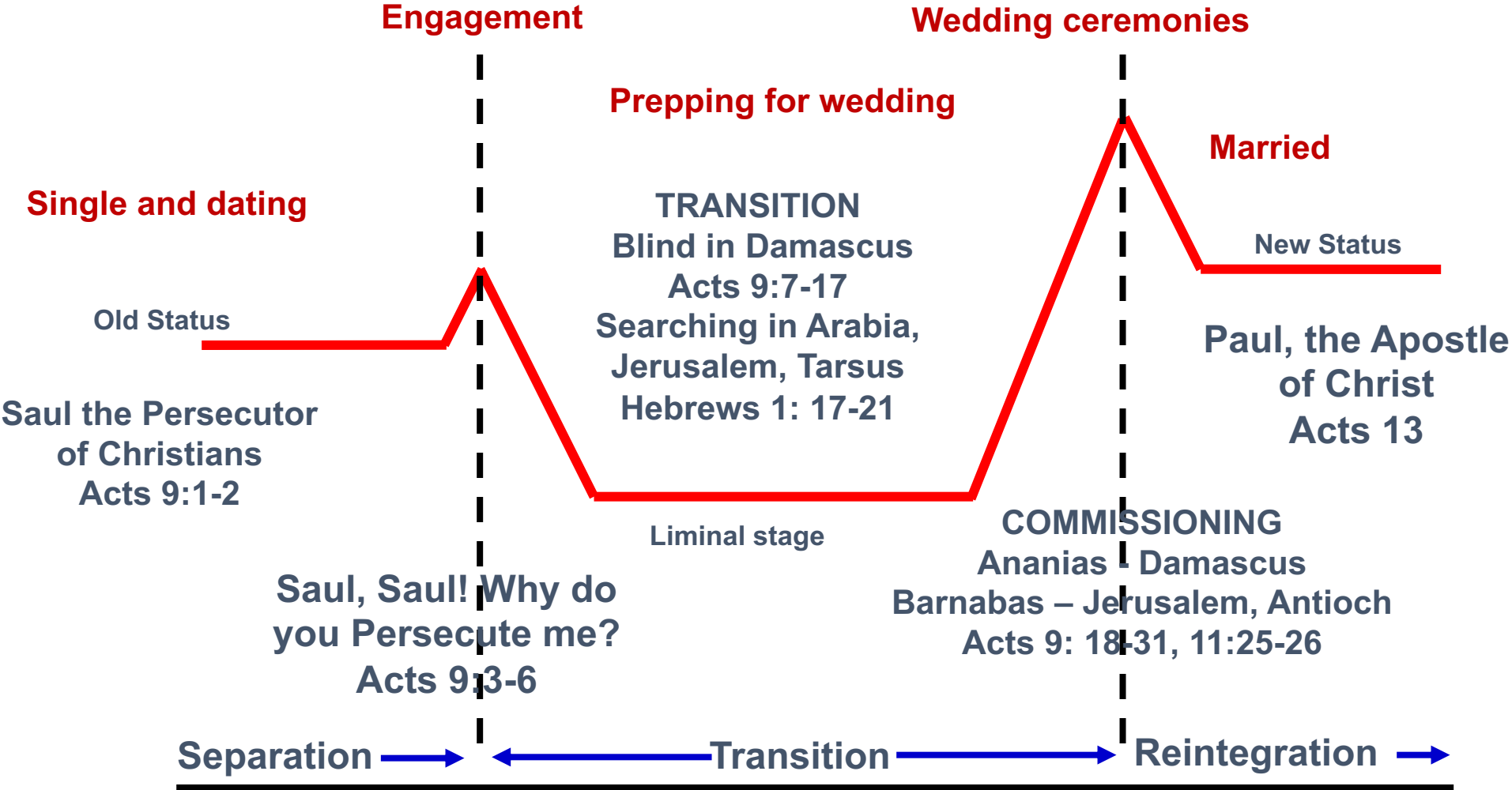


# ...tale as old as faith





# More transitions



# Kijiji – Facilitative Community

*“If you want to go quickly, go alone.  
If you want to go far, go together”*

1. Christ/Context – mediator of worldview
2. Counselor/coach – facilitators
3. *Communitas*- cohort
4. Cloud of witnesses - crowd  
- Interpretive Community



# Kijiji: The Church's Contemporary Rites of Passage

