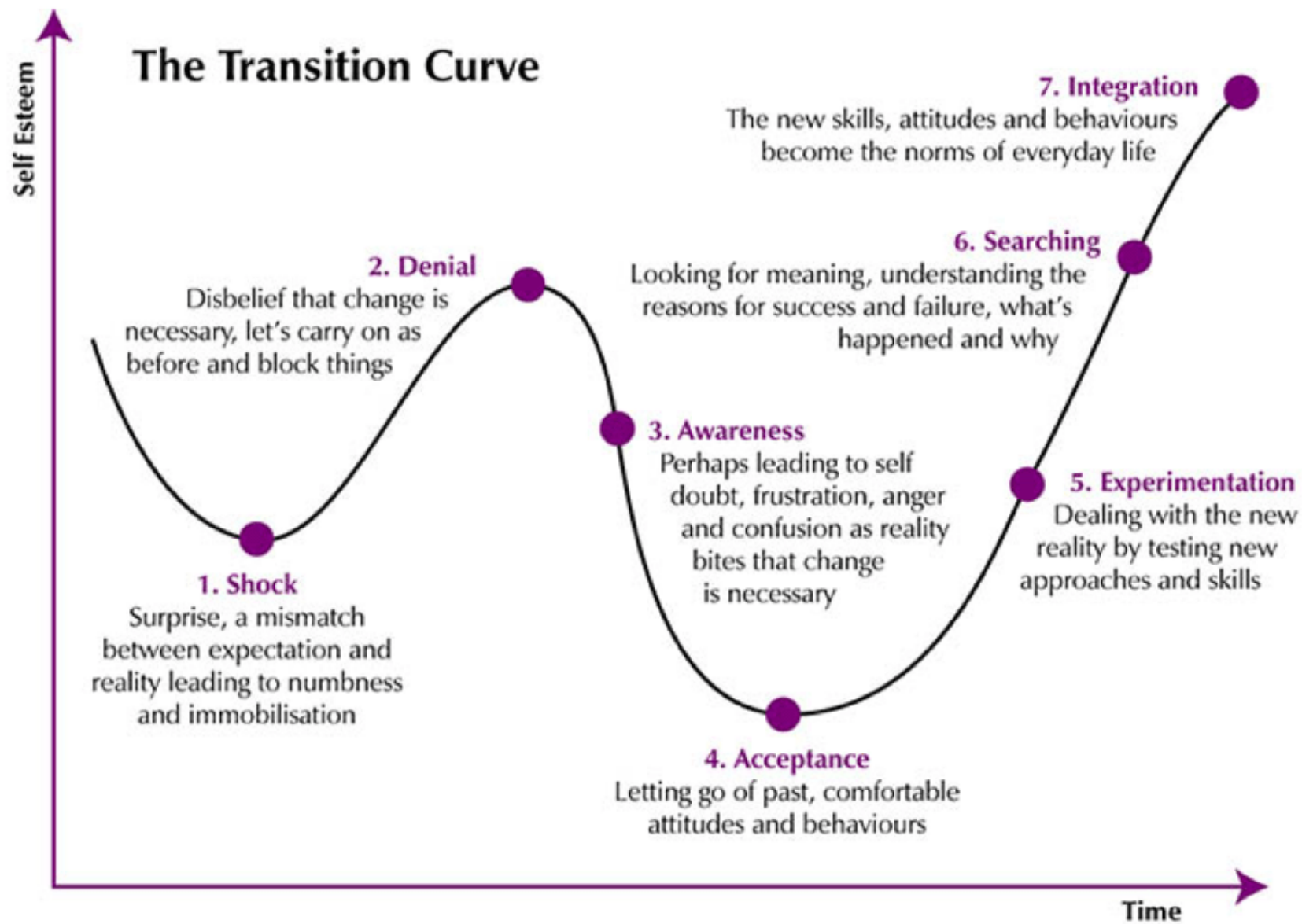


THE ROAD TO RESTORATION





A Cycle of Change for People and Businesses (Kubler Ross)

JOEL

	The Plague of Locusts	The Call to Repentance	The Future of Judah
	<p>The past plague</p> <hr/> <p>The future invasion</p> <hr/> <p>Historic Day of the Lord</p> <hr/> <p>Imminent Day of the Lord</p>	<p>“Return to Me”</p> <hr/> <p>The character of God KEY: 2:13</p> <hr/> <p>The universal appeal</p>	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 5px; border: 1px dashed black; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>One of the greatest promises of hope in all the Old Testament</p> </div> <p>Concerning the Spirit of God</p> <hr/> <p>Concerning the judgment of God</p> <hr/> <p>Concerning the kingdom of God</p> <hr/> <p>Ultimate Day of the Lord</p>
	<i>CHAPTERS</i> 1:1–2:11	<i>CHAPTER</i> 2:12–17	<i>CHAPTER</i> 2:18–27
Emphasis	Desolation	Exhortation	Restoration
Emotion	Mourning now Rejoicing later		
Parallel Verse	“For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; / Weeping may last for the night, / But a shout of joy comes in the morning” (Psalm 30:5).		
Theme	Repent, for the day of the Lord is near.		
Key Verses	2:12–14, 18, 25–27		
Christ in Joel	The coming of the Holy Spirit, who applies Christ’s redemption, is predicted in 2:28. Jesus Christ is the One who judges nations but who also restores His people.		

THE ROAD TO RESTORATION

Wake up

Lament

Repent

The promise



1:5 Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!
Wail, all you drinkers of wine;
wail because of the new wine,
for it has been snatched from your lips.
6 A nation has invaded my land,
a mighty army without number;
it has the teeth of a lion,
the fangs of a lioness.

2:11 The LORD thunders
at the head of his army;
his forces are beyond number,
and mighty is the army that obeys his command.
The day of the LORD is great;
it is dreadful.

Joel 2:3

Before them fire devours,
behind them a flame blazes.

Before them the land is like the garden of Eden,
behind them, a desert waste—
nothing escapes them.

WHAT DOES LOCUST YEARS LOOK LIKE?

- Fruitless years (All this work for?)
- Painful years (lost.. disappointment)
- Selfish years (How can I have been so shallow?)
- Loveless years (Haven't met the right person, family conflicts, relational problems)
- Rebellious years
- Misdirected years (Choices that felt like a dead end)
- Coming to Jesus late in your life
- Years of depression
- Years of being religious
- Years of offence

LAMENT

1:13 Put on sackcloth, you priests, and mourn;
wail, you who minister before the altar.
Come, spend the night in sackcloth,
you who minister before my God;
for the grain offerings and drink offerings
are withheld from the house of your God.

¹⁴ Declare a holy fast;
call a sacred assembly.
Summon the elders
and all who live in the land
to the house of the LORD your God,
and cry out to the LORD.

2:12 “Even now,” declares the LORD,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

¹³ Rend your heart
and not your garments.

Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.

LAMENT DO WE KNOW HOW?

Who & How?

Wail , you minister before the altar

Rend your heart.. (Tear, ripped apart) and not your garments

Turn to me with all your heart, with fasting weeping and mourning

All your heart... How does that look like? Vulnerable, shame..

Without fear... Do not be afraid he has done good things

Cry out to Him

REPENT

When? Even now

Why?

- He is gracious & merciful. Slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love & Relent from sending calamity
- He is faithful 2:23
- Do not be afraid, surely the Lord has done great things 2:21
- The promise (2:25& 3:28-31)

THE PROMISE

²⁵ “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm my great army that I sent among you.

²⁶ You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed.

²⁷ Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

“And afterward,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.
²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.
³⁰ I will show wonders in the heavens
and on the earth,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
³¹ The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
³² And everyone who calls
on the name of the LORD will be saved

TO WHOM IS THIS PROMISE GIVEN

- People who feel their need for mercy
 - Rom 8:32 because of Christ (spare you're people)
 - Can be a confident prayer
- Want God's name to be honoured
 - “unbelieving people are watching”
 - To pray from and into that

HOW CAN HE RESTORE THE YEARS?

By deepening your communion with Christ

Multiplying your fruitfulness

Bringing long term gain from short term lost

WHY NOT?

- Struggle to receive?
- Unforgiveness?
- No time to lament
- Too scared to lament
- Shame
- Postponing
- Lack of faith... want to control?

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Lament

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