**Dear church, behold our God! (Isaiah 40)**

*“I’ll give anything to be loved the way you have”*

*“Being there for a child is the most noble thing a toy can do”*

Longing for & giving of comfort

Setting the context

“Comfort, comfort my people” (v.1)

What is comfort?

Comfort vs comfortable

Cold comfort vs true comfort

To offer strength; to give support

**What is God doing to comfort us?**

The occasion of God’s renewing comfort: our failure

All paid for

3 voices: v.3, 6, 9 ⇒ He’s going to bring you home!

VOICE 1: God intervenes (v.3-5)

VOICE 2: God promises (v.6-8)

VOICE 3: God shepherds (v.9-11)

Illusion vs reality

**Can he do it?**

Isaiah’s answer: v12-26!

* Hold out your hand (v.12a)
* Look at the sky (v.12b)
* Look at the ground (v.12c)
* God’s advisory committee (v.13-14)

With whom would you compare God? (v.18)

* The nations? (v.15-17)
* The images of gods? (v.19-20, 25-26)
* The rulers of the earth? (v.21-24)

Behold your God!

**Will he do it?** (v.29-31)