

## GOD'S MESSAGE OF HOPE TO YOU



### GOD'S MESSAGE OF HOPE AND COMFORT IS THE SAME REGARDLESS OF YOUR LIFE'S SITUATION OR FEELINGS

Isaiah 40:1

- a. A message of hope and comfort for **the heart of people**
- b. This word has been **fulfilled over 150 years later**
- c. A message of hope which restores a **broken relationship**

#### Life lesson:

*It's so easy to get distracted by the life crises **and to abandon God's message of hope**  
Don't allow your feelings, or to **alter God's word of hope and comfort to you!***

### GOD KNOWS WHEN ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

1. We reap **what we sow**
2. In spite of drastic consequences or our poor choices, **God limits our crises and sufferings**

#### Life lesson:

*There is an end to your "apparent infinite" life's crises or issues **because God is in control***

### GOD PRESENTS HIMSELF

Reasons:

- a. There is our human tendency **to forget who God is**
- b. God is the creator of everything Isaiah 40:12
- c. God knows everything Isaiah 40:13
- d. You can't compare God with anything Isaiah 40:18
- e. He is coming Isaiah 40:3

#### Life Lesson:

*In the midst of despair, we forget who God is. Refresh your life by **remembering on a daily basis, God's attributes.***

## Life Group Homework/ Bible Study & Food for Thought

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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*NIV – New International Version or where is the case we use ESV- English Standard Version*

### Quick Review

Looking back at your notes from this week teaching, was there anything new you learned or anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

This weekend's message, pastor David spoke that hope and comfort is found only in God. However, when we face crises, or difficult seasons of life we tend to distant from God and forget that He is in control.

**Isaiah 40:1-8** *Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"*

1. Describe the historical situation of Isaiah 40? Try to identify the past condition of people to whom this message addresses.
2. In what ways we need a message of encouragement when we experience difficulties or lose hope?
3. When you are discouraged, what do you usually do? What's your reaction? Why?
4. Isaiah 40:2 has a slightly different translation than in our English bibles. The Hebrew expression is "speak to the heart of people of Jerusalem" instead "speak kindly to Jerusalem." Usually, it would be awkward to say that somebody speaks to the heart. This expression is a Hebrew idiom, and we know that we often cannot talk to a "heart" in a literal sense, but to the human ears. The Hebrew expression encapsulates God's care for the human's heart condition. Do you realize that God cares so much about your heart, your feelings, even your thoughts? How does God's care for your heart affect your daily living?
5. What do you need to allow God to speak into your heart? What do you think stands against God's message of hope and comfort to reach your heart?



**LIFE GROUPS**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

**Commitment to Personal Goals:**

1. Scripture Reading (specific and attainable)
2. Scripture Memorization (verse/ passage)
3. Relationships/ Evangelism
4. Personal

**Group Goals**

- ▲ LOOK UP towards Christ
  - Grow in love for Christ and confidence in Him
- ▼ LOOK DOWN into the God's Word
  - Learn God's word and how to study it
  - Apply God's word to my life in specific ways
- ▶ LOOK IN at my own life
  - Identify and fight against sin in my life
  - Cultivate godly character and spiritual maturity
  - Improve my devotional life or reading and prayer
- ◀ LOOK OUT towards others
  - Serve other church members purposefully
  - Nurture relationships for accountability and prayer
  - Strengthen n the relationships within my home
  - Develop loving friendships with outsiders for the purpose of evangelism

**Responsibilities for Group Members**

1. Be committed to GCC and its mission, leadership and goals of LG
2. Attend Sunday services each week, or let someone in the group know why I miss
3. Prioritize group meetings by arriving on time each week
4. Complete any assignments for the group and come prepared to participate
5. Participate in meetings without disrupting or monopolizing the time and attention of others
6. Cultivate trust within the group and be honest, transparent and teachable
7. Show love, concern and hospitality to visitors