

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

CLOSED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS

In the last week of December, a small sinkhole opened on the shoulder of SR-261 just south of Washtucna, Washington. Department of Transportation crews closed the rural road in one direction, reducing traffic to a single lane. Then over the course of the next few hours, the sinkhole began to collapse the asphalt, widening to dangerous proportions. Officials finally closed the road in both directions and set up a detour. Sinkholes in Washington are usually caused by extreme weather changes or flooding beneath the surface. The water can hollow out an area beneath land, a road, or even a structure, and eventually the roof of the cavern can't support itself. "If you see a sinkhole," said TV station Fox 28 in Spokane, "even a small one, quickly leave the area and report it. Though they can look harmless at first, the opening can spread rapidly."

THE GOD WHO GIVES DIRECTIONS

In today's passage, God reminds the Jewish people that he had announced his plans for them in generations past. They had no room to claim that they had thought them up or brought them to pass through their pagan idols. Then he says he's doing new things that they couldn't predict, so they can't claim they'd already known of them. God is the one who directs them, either in the past or the future, and teaches them what's best for them. But will they heed his directions?

1. What's the worst sinkhole incident you've ever heard of?
2. When have you had to change the direction of your life?
3. How has God directed you in the past?

Additional Resources

These videos and materials are for your personal use. If you show videos in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Music Video, Traditional: ["Be Not Dismayed Whate're Betide"](#)

Music Video, Multicultural: ["You Waited" by Travis Greene](#)

Music Video, Contemporary: ["Caminho no Deserto / Way Maker" by REVERE](#)

[Guzik's Commentary on Isaiah 48](#)

[Pulpit Commentary on Isaiah 48](#)

[Gill's Exposition of Isaiah 48](#)