

Using Divinely Appointed Sources

A previous lesson introduced Adry, who asked the question “If there really is a loving God, why would He allow people to suffer?” To practice seeking truth from divinely appointed sources, take a few minutes to complete at least two of the following activities. Record what you learn in your study journal.

1. Parents and Church leaders: Text Adry’s question to a parent or Church leader, and explain that you are discussing the question in seminary and want to know what they think about it.
2. Prayer: In a silent personal prayer, ask the Lord for guidance and inspiration from the Holy Ghost on this question. Record the thoughts and feelings that come to you.
3. Scriptures: Find scriptures that may help Adry. For example, you might read about Alma’s people in the Book of Mormon who experienced the suffering of physical captivity (see Mosiah 23:21–23; 24:8–15).
4. The Lord’s prophets: Find a prophetic statement that may help Adry. For example, read the following statement by Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin (1917–2008) of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles:



Learning to endure times of disappointment, suffering, and sorrow is part of our on-the-job training. These experiences, while often difficult to bear at the time, are precisely the kinds of experiences that stretch our understanding, build our character, and increase our compassion for others.

Because Jesus Christ suffered greatly, He understands our suffering. He understands our grief. We experience hard things so that we too may have increased compassion and understanding for others. (Joseph B. Wirthlin, “Come What May, and Love It,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2008, 27)

- What did these sources teach that you would want to share with Adry?

- What have you learned that will make a difference in how you seek answers to difficult questions?