NAME:_____ DATE:_____

RELIGIOUS STUDIES
OVERCOMING OBSTACLES
CLASSWORK #1

Read the passage and scenario carefully. Answer the questions which follow.

Suffering is a part of life's experiences. Most people view suffering as something negative. Suffering can however, produce positive characteristics in a person's life. Suffering helps to make individuals stronger and more resilient. They also gain wisdom and develop empathy.

Suffering can be an obstacle in a person's life if it causes an individual to lose hope and give up.

Two biblical examples of persons who suffered are Job and Joseph. Job was a righteous man. God allowed Satan to test Job by taking away his children and wealth. Job also endured sickness. Joseph endured great hardship after he was sold into slavery and imprisoned. Both of these individuals were rewarded for their patience and fortitude.

Suffering is a difficult experience but individuals must find ways to cope during such times. Here are several ways to cope during difficult times: • Pray to God; ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide you • Talk to your parents, Pastor or counselor • Read the Bible • Listen to songs and poems that bring comfort • Encourage others who may be going through a similar experience

1. **Scenario:** Mr. Knowles lost his job and one of his closest relatives are ailing. As a result, his utility bills are unpaid, his son's school fee is due, and he is feeling depressed. As a result of these terrible events he has experienced a sense of suffering.

   (a) Explain how suffering can produce positive characteristics in his life. (4pts)

   _____

   _____

   _____

   (b) Suffering can be an obstacle in Mr. Knowles' life. Explain how. (2pts)

   _____

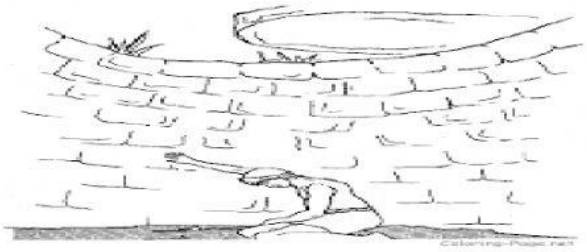
   _____

(c) Suggest **FOUR** ways Mr. Knowles can cope during such a difficult time in his life. (4pts)

_____

_____

2. Use the picture below and your background knowledge from class discussions to help you answer questions 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d.



(a) Which Bible character is displayed here?_____(1pt)

(b) What is the problem in the story?(2pts)

_____

_____

(c) How was the problem solved? _____

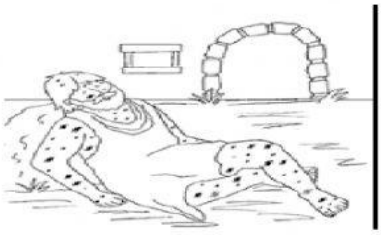
_____ (2pts)

(d) Explain how you would have overcome this obstacle. (2pts)

_____

_____

3. Use the picture and your background knowledge from class discussions to help you answer questions 3a , 3b and 3c.



(a) Who is the Bible character shown? _____(1pt.)

(b) State **TWO** obstacle is he faced._____

_____(2pts.)

(c) What advice would you offer if he was your friend? _____

_____(2pts.)