

**Gaining an Edge**  
The Edge – Part 1 of 5  
Pastor Randy Lanthripe  
September 26, 2021

**Wisdom gives you an edge in life**

*Ecclesiastes 10:8–11 He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall. <sup>9</sup> He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. <sup>10</sup> If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. <sup>11</sup> If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer. ESV*

- **Randomness happens**

*Ecclesiastes 10:8–9 He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall. <sup>9</sup> He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. ESV*

- **A dull axe makes more work**

*Ecclesiastes 10:10 If the iron is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. ESV*

- **A slack hand misses opportunity**

*Ecclesiastes 10:11 If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer. ESV*

## **The Ultimate Priority of Getting Wisdom**

*Proverbs 4:7 Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. NIV84*

## **Wisdom Flows from Its Source**

*Proverbs 2:6–8 For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity, 8 guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints. ESV*

### **Pause To Reflect**

What was I trying to accomplish through the choice I made?

Were there emotions driving my choice(s)?

How does that align with God's goal for those kinds of situations?

What should I do differently next time I'm in a similar situation?

**Take a Next Step based on what God said to you through His Word today**