

Before You Get It
The Edge – Part 5 of 5
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Proverbs 8:1–5 Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? ² On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; ³ beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: ⁴ “To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. ⁵ O simple ones, learn prudence; O fools, learn sense. (ESV)

Proverbs 8:17 I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. (ESV)

Message Series Review

1. Gaining an Edge

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)

2. Snapshot of the Wise

A wise person...

- Lives a good life (James 3:13)
- Walks exactly (Ephesians 5:15-17)
- Has gumption (Proverbs 30:24-28)

3. A Contrast in Strategies

A foolish strategy leaves a wake of turmoil in its path

4. The God Who is There

Humility is the great precursor to wisdom

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom. (ESV)

To Be Humble Is to Recognize:

- My Position before God

James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. (NLT)

- My Position related to Others

Philippians 2:3 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. (NLT)

Proverbs 26:12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him. (NIV)

The fear of the Lord is the breakthrough point into wisdom

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (NIV)

- **Take God seriously and live within His boundaries**

1 Peter 1:17 And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents." (NLT)

- **Revere God enough to want to please Him**

1 Peter 2:17 Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king. (NLT)

- **Make a prior decision to obey God**

John 7:17 If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. (NIV)

My Next Step Today is to...

☐ For the first time, I accept Jesus as my Savior and commit to follow Him as Lord

☐ To grow in wisdom, I will: (circle one)

Humble myself before God

Humble myself before others

Take God seriously by living in His boundaries

Make a prior decision to obey God