

**God has more for us  
God also wants more from us**

***Ecclesiastes 10:10 NIV***

*10 If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success.*

***Proverbs 18:15 NLT***

*15 Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge.*

***Proverbs 9:9 ESV***

*9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.*

***2 Timothy 2:15 KJV***

*15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

**Matthew 25**

1. The master entrusted his property/talents to each of his servants according to their \_\_\_\_\_
2. To one he gave five talents, to another two and to another \_\_\_\_\_ talent.
3. When the master returned the one who was give five gained \_\_\_\_\_ to one given two he gained two more. But one who had one \_\_\_\_\_
4. The servant who buried his talent was called wicked \_\_\_\_\_
5. Consider that the master gave each servant according to his ability. So, the master of the wicked lazy servant knew before hand he had the ability, but he did nothing with it.
6. What it was a matter of laziness, \_\_\_\_\_ or thought?
7. Let's not live below the ability/capacity level God already knows we have. Lets' sharpen our ax.

**Sharpen Your Ax**

Just as a lumberjack spends time sharpening an ax to cut efficiently, we should invest time in gaining wisdom, planning, and developing skills



The dull ax represents inefficiency and unnecessary struggle, while sharpening the ax symbolizes preparation and skill

Preparation (sharpening) includes studying, seeking counsel, praying, and wise application of God's Word to improve one's skills

**Application**

1. Let's be all we can be as individuals and as a church
2. Let's not live as two talent when God gave us the capacity to live as five.
3. The difference of hearing good and faithful servant, and wicked lazy servant could be effort, no being lazy, but being prepared, and rejecting the enemies' lies
4. I would but, I don't know how to, is not a good answer
5. We need to sharpen our ax's
  - a. Reading
  - b. Taking a class
  - c. Workshops and conferences
  - d. Online videos
  - e. OJT
  - f. Mentor/Coach

As a believer are you adequately preparing for the tasks God has given, or does your ax need sharpening?