

# *God's Grace In US*

**Ephesians 4:7-12**

## **Gifts for Growth**

God's provision of gifted people so the Body of Christ will grow to spiritual maturity

# Bringing the Text to Light and Life

## Serving Grace (vs. 7)

***But to each one grace has been given...***

- Unity ≠ uniformity but rather a harmony that arises from diversity!
- Each one of us has received from God a calling, capacity and competence for service
  - We are all *charismatics*!
  - Not just “saving grace” but “serving grace”!
  - Not just for my self-satisfaction but for building the body up toward maturity.

# **Bringing the Text to Light and Life**

## **Serving Grace (vs. 7)**

## **From the Victor's Bounty (vs. 8-10)**

- The grace gifts we receive are an expression and consequence of the greatness of Christ's victory over sin and death.
- God gets the glory and we get the benefit: the unimaginable privilege of serving Him!

## **Bringing the Text to Light and Life**

### **Serving Grace (vs. 7)**

### **From the Victor's Bounty (vs. 8-10)**

### **Provision & Pattern for Growth (vs. 11-12)**

– Grace-gifted leaders

- Not the *individual spiritual gifts* that we each have been given, but the *spiritually gifted individuals* that God has given to His church
- A sample of the *kinds* of grace-gifted leaders God supplies – not a fixed *prescription*.

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### **Serving Grace (vs. 7)**

### **From the Victor's Bounty (vs. 8-10)**

### **Provision & Pattern for Growth (vs. 11-12)**

- Grace-gifted leaders
  - The grace-gifted leaders mentioned here:
    - Apostles & Prophets (stone masons)
    - Evangelists (midwives)
    - Pastor/Teacher (pediatricians)

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### **Serving Grace (vs. 7)**

### **From the Victor's Bounty (vs. 8-10)**

### **Provision & Pattern for Growth (vs. 11-12)**

- Grace-gifted leaders
- The leaders equip – the saints serve
  - *Equip* = to make productive and useful (e.g. a limb, the government, a fishing net)
  - Church metaphors: pyramid – bus – body

# **Bringing the Text to Light and Life**

**Serving Grace (vs. 7)**

**From the Victor's Bounty (vs. 8-10)**

**Provision & Pattern for Growth (vs. 11-12)**

*Are we willing to embrace growth,  
God's kind of growth, or do we prefer  
instead to simply stay as we are?*