

# The Sovereign Source of a Successful Ministry

## 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

### The Sovereign Source of a Successful Ministry

*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*



### The Great Pyramid of Giza



### 1 Cor. 12-14 – Spiritual Gifts

- **Ch. 12** = general instruction about spiritual gifts.
- **Ch. 13** = the priority of love, even over spiritual gifts.
- **Ch. 14** = a specific response to the misuse of tongues in Corinth.

### Four Foundational Principles about our Service

- I. God has chosen the character of your gift (4).
- II. God has decided the context of your service (5).
- III. God has determined the results of your efforts (6).
- IV. God has prescribed the purpose of your gift (7).

### Timeless Lessons...

- **1)** Don't mistake the effective use of your gift with the presence of true personal holiness.
- **2)** Learn to value the diversity of gifts God has placed within the church.
- **3)** Don't become discontent with your giftedness as you compare it to others.
- **4)** Don't consider your gift to be more important than others.

### Timeless Lessons...

- **5)** Expend the maximum effort to make progress in the use of your gift.
- **6)** Develop a constant awareness that God is sovereign in the character of your gifts, the context of your service, and the results of your efforts.
- **7)** Determine to have the right motives as you use your gifts: to build up the body and to glorify the Lord.