

## OVERTAKEN #4

Kenny Luck

*They were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest. But Jesus intervened: “Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. It’s not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. “Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You’d rather eat and be served, right? But I’ve taken my place among you as the one who serves.” Luke 22:24-27 MSG*

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you." Matthew 5:38-42 NIV*

**THIS IS DIFFERENT!**

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**THE CLEAR MESSAGE**

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**LIGHTER IS BETTER**

*“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” Matthew 11:28-30 MSG*

**THE SPIRIT-EMPOWERED MAN MAKES OTHERS FEEL LIGHTER THROUGH**

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*“When we arrived in Macedonia province, we couldn’t settle down. The fights in the church and the fears in our hearts kept us on pins and needles. We couldn’t relax because we didn’t know how it would turn out. Then the God who lifts up the downcast lifted our heads and our hearts with the arrival of Titus. We were glad just to see him, but the true reassurance came in what he told us about you: how much you cared, how much you grieved, how concerned you were for me. I went from worry to tranquility in no time!” 2 Corinthians 7:5-7 MSG*

**THE SPIRIT-EMPOWERED MAN MAKES OTHERS FEEL LIGHTER THROUGH**

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*“If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.” James 2:15-17 NASB*

**THE SPIRIT-EMPOWERED MAN MAKES OTHERS FEEL LIGHTER THROUGH**

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***“God’s Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.” Ephesians 6:17-18 MSG***

***“Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” Philippians 4:6-7 MSG***

#### **THE SPIRIT-EMPOWERED MAN MAKES OTHERS FEEL LIGHTER THROUGH**

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***“For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.” Proverbs 2:6-11 NLT***

***“Take good counsel and accept correction—that’s the way to live wisely and well.” Proverbs 19:20 MSG***

#### **A WARNING: GOING THE SECOND MILE ...**

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***“For they don’t practice what they teach. They crush people with unbearable religious demands and never lift a finger to ease the burden.” Matthew 23:3-4 NLT***

#### **JESUS UNBURDENS US ... JESUS LIVES IN YOU!**

***Holy Spirit...Thank you for helping me to feel unburdened spiritually by Jesus. It feels amazing to know that my personal load of guilt and sin has been lifted by Him and replaced with a feathery blanket of forgiveness and hope. There are no words that properly express my gratitude. Thank you for continuing to carry and lighten my burdens in my fight with sin, to ease my struggle to make sense of circumstances, and to reduce my anxieties over the future. In this moment, I accept the mission to do the same in the lives of others. Help me to clearly see the borders of where my abilities end and yours begin. Help me to see the simple ways I can be used to alleviate the heavy loads people are carrying through providing what’s missing, supplying insight, affording opportunities to pray, or simply making myself available. You are the one who does all the heavy lifting, Lord; I am your servant. Help me start lightening the load in my own first mile responsibilities and then move me to the second mile for people I can help. I pray now for the burdened around me in Jesus’ powerful name, Amen***

#### **FOR DISCUSSION:**

**CAN YOU THINK OF A TIME SOMEONE ENTERED YOUR LIFE AND MADE YOUR LOAD LIGHTER?  
HOW DID THEY DO THAT?**

**WHY DOES UNEXPECTED SERVICE OR HELP WITHOUT EXPECTATION OF RECIPROCITY  
AROUSE CURIOSITY?**

**HOW DOES FAITH IN GOD HELP YOU DO THE UNEXPECTED TO LIFT A BURDEN?**

**ARE YOU READY TO ANSWER THE QUESTION OF "WHY ARE DOING THIS?" WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?**