

Authentic Christianity: A Christian Forgives

Wylie Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 12, 2023

Matthew 18:21-22

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven."

A Christian forgives because...

1. **GOD FORGIVES US**

Ephesians 4:31-32

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Romans 3:23-24

23... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

A Christian forgives because...

2. **GOD'S LOVE COMPELS US TO**

Matt 6:12

"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

Matthew 6:14-15

"14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Mark 11:25

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

A Christian forgives because...

3. **FORGIVENESS SETS US FREE**

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you." - Lewis B. Smedes

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

In the name of Jesus Christ,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit,

I choose to forgive: _____