

# 14 Things Forgiveness is Not\*

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## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT NEGLECTING JUSTICE.**

You can forgive and still call the police.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT RECONCILIATION.**

It takes one person to forgive and two people to reconcile.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT CORPORATE.**

You forgive individual people, but not companies or churches.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT BROAD.**

You forgive specific hurts, not general behavior.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT FAST.**

Deep hurts need more time and often need a second coat.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT FORGETTING.**

You may remember what they did, but you'll also remember that you forgave.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT DIMINISHING THEIR ACTIONS.**

Forgiveness recognizes that sin (yours & your offender's) sent Christ to the cross.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT WEAKNESS.**

Confronting your deepest pain & choosing to forgive is not for the faint-hearted.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT TRUSTING.**

Forgiveness is a gift you offer but trust is something they earn.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT ENABLING.**

You can forgive and still confront.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT TOLERATING.**

You can forgive past behavior without subjecting yourself to their present behavior.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT WAITING FOR AN APOLOGY.**

Forgiveness is your choice. An apology is your offender's choice.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT DISMISSING EMOTIONS OR AVOIDING PAIN.**

Forgiveness allows your pain and anger to move you toward grace.

## **FORGIVENESS IS NOT A SINGLE PRAYER.**

Forgiveness is a process (seventy times seven) that resembles a marathon, not a sprint.

\*adapted with permission from *10 Things Forgiveness is Not* by Mark Driscoll