



## Forgiveness

Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

What forgiveness is not:

1. Just letting it go.

Matthew 18:15-17 (NIV)

*"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' <sup>17</sup> If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.*

2. Trusting again.

- Forgiveness doesn't mean risking your own safety.

3. Removing all consequences.

4. Refusing to seek justice.

2 Timothy 4:14 (NIV)

*Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.*

II. What forgiveness is: (Ephesians 4:32)

Forgiveness: Extending to others a portion of the grace of God that we have received.

1. Forgiveness starts with a look in the mirror. (Matthew 18:23-35)

2. Forgiveness is refusing to make another pay anymore.

3. Forgiveness is praying for God's best in their lives.

4. Forgiveness is a trademark of the truly forgiven.

Matthew 6:11-12 (NIV)

*Give us today our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

Matthew 18:35 (NIV)

*"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."*