

# An Open Letter To My Children on Larry's & my 30th Anniversary ~ Call It Grace (by Unspoken)



**Dear Bobby, Kaitlyn, Brittany & Carolyn,**

*As Dad and I celebrate our 30th anniversary, my thoughts turn to you, our beloved children and daughter-in-love.*

*If you only learn one thing from Dad and I and our 30 years together, I pray you learn about **GRACE**.*

***Grace** sees all we are and all we've done and still chooses us.*

***Grace** walks in when the world walks out.*

**Grace** removes all fear – fear of punishment or rejection, even when we deserve it.

Thirty-one years ago, the grace and kindness of God brought your dad into my life.

His smile grabbed my attention. His grace captured my heart.

I first experienced it when a group of us were playing Keep-A-Way.

Your dad held the ball high in the air, taunting me in my shortness.

So I grabbed his shirt – his brand new shirt – and pulled.

Riiipp!

I stood frozen, horrified.

Your dad stood as the picture of grace.

His shoulders slunk, he yelled out an oscar-worthy, exaggerated, “Nooooo!” – the way you’ve seen him do a million times– and then he laughed – as you’ve seen him do a million times.

Then he took off running with the ball again.

Grace.

It may seem a small thing, but to someone who continually needs and longs for grace, I was hooked. I knew I needed that – wanted that – for the rest of my life.



*The grace your dad has shown me these past 30 years has been nothing short of a miracle.*

*Some may even say Christ-like.*

*He would say he's just passing on the grace Christ has shown him.*

*The grace Christ has shown him, me, you, us is literally scandalous.*

***More than anything in life, I pray you fully understand, experience, and embrace Christ's grace.***

*That's a little scary to wish because we never really understand something until we need it.*

*I understand it.*

*And I'm still learning to understand it more.*

*I wouldn't dare to try and count the many times I should have received judgment but received grace instead.*

*Christ has been a bottomless well of forgiveness and love.*

*I pray you know that Christ's grace reaches in and pulls you out of all judgment.*

*Has that sunk in?*

***There's no judgment in grace.***

*Not even the fear of judgment.*

*No wagging of the head and extending grace despite your obvious guilt.*

*No penance asked for or even wanted.*

*No shame.*

***Just grace.***

*Christ's gift of grace pulls you into His arms and tells you He loves you – yesterday, today and forever – no matter what.*

*But, like all gifts, you can only experience it by taking it, receiving it, and embracing it.*

*Please don't miss living a life filled with more **love, joy,** and **contentment** than you can even imagine.*

***And courage.***

*Yes, grace gives us courage.*

*It gives us courage to try again because it doesn't point to our failures. It overlooks them and reminds us we're loved.*

***Grace never gives up.***

*Today, Dad and I celebrate 30 years of a grace-filled marriage and life.*



*I pray you fully embrace a life of grace – the grace of Christ.*

*And I pray you spend the rest of your life with someone who's also embraced His scandalous grace.*

*And that you'll wrap each other in it every single day for as long as you both shall live.*

*Just like your dad has done for me.*

*I love you!*

*We love you!*

*~ Mom*

*Unspoken's* song, *Call It Grace*, is a beautiful description of what I've gotten to experience since the day I met Christ in 1973.

I didn't really understand the depths of it back then, but over time I've come to see it for what it truly is.

There's just nothing better.

The grace of Christ has taught me what love is.

His grace is softening my hard edges and gives me joy that wells from deep within.

And it's His grace that will continue to mold and shape me into the image of Christ, the One from whom all grace flows.

[There's no judgment in #grace. Not even the fear of it. Watch CALL IT GRACE by @unspokenmusic #MondayMusic Click To Tweet](#)

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