

# Israel Houghton Praises God's 'Unflinching' Love After Year of Scandal

Israel Houghton praised God's unflinching love in a recent Instagram post after months of controversy.

The former worship leader for Joel Osteen's Lakewood Church writes:

*One day it just clicks... You realize what and who is important and what and who isn't. You learn to care less about what other people think of you and more about what you think of yourself. You realize that you're better off with 5 true friends and loved ones who love you no matter what- than to have 500 friends who only love you when you/ your gift make them or their brand look good. You see just how far you've come and you remember when you thought things were such a mess that they'd never recover. And then you smile... You smile because God is so good and faithful in His unflinching love – you smile because you are truly proud of yourself, and the person you fought hard to become. You smile because you have 5 people who helped you in that fight; and are still standing, or sitting... In Greece. In Peace.*

Earlier this year, Houghton announced his divorce, his new girlfriend and “indefinite leave” from Lakewood Church.

Many of his fans posted messages of support for the musician, who is still dating fellow singer Adrienne Bailon.

“I've been there, 4 years ago!, so I understand how it feels!, BUT GOD”

And another said: “@ihoughton now you know what David must've gone through and guess God inspired words and music STILL

inspire and resound true TODAY, thousands of years later!  
#messbecomesmessage #testbecomestestimony  
#aftergreattrialcomesgreattriumph."