

# q music: JOHN CHANDLER MISSING

John Chandler, formerly of Maurice Starr's boyband 6PIECE, is back with "Missing", his gritty and soulful new track that was inspired from a conversation John had with his father on the front porch. "I was visiting from New York City, where I was living at the time, and not sure if I was in the right relationship, working the right job or living in the right city," John recalls. "Dad said to me, 'It's not always what's wrong with a situation, sometimes it's what's missing. Find out what that thing is, and that will guide you'". John says his Dad's simple message resonated with him and started him on a journey of making some major life changes, including breaking up with his boyfriend, leaving New York, and ultimately writing the song.

"We've all woken up wondering if we are doing enough to fulfill our purpose in life," John continues from his Nashville home. "For me, the message in 'Missing' is that often what we're chasing and searching for is inside ourselves and the key to happiness is remaining centered."

It's been a long road to enlightenment for John. Much of his recent struggles, he realizes today, stem from finding success as a teen. "Being discovered by Maurice Starr, the man behind New Kids on the Block and New Edition, was a blessing and a curse. On one hand it was amazing, opening for NSYNC on the Pop Odyssey Tour and sharing the stage with acts like Alicia Keys, Jagged Edge, and Trisha Yearwood. On the other, it gave me a false sense of how the world works. I thought dreams were just handed to you at 16, and then you lived happily ever after."

He is taking a different direction with "Missing," the first song off his next EP that chronicles John's road to self-discovery. The working title is "Running, Missing, Changing, Growing"; literally, the EPs track list. Each single has sad but hopeful lyrics, set to real piano and guitars, mixed with 808 drums and some vocoder, that each tell a story all their own.

"2020 has changed my life forever, and this EP reflects that," John says. "I've been wrestling with the end of a relationship, being fired from my job, living in a new city, raising money for my Mom's stage 4 Cancer treatment, and all during a global pandemic."

Because of the pandemic, John couldn't shoot the music video in New York, Los Angeles, and Atlanta, as he had intended. He shot it locally, in Nashville. In order to capture the energy of the single, John and director Cooper Smith filmed in several locations throughout the city including the metal scrapyards next to the Nissan Stadium, by the Cumberland River, in Printers Alley, downtown and in the city's tallest luxury skyscraper, the 505.

"This year the universe told us all to take a seat," John Chandler jokes today. "It didn't matter who you were or where you lived, we were all forced to put things on pause."

"When COVID passes, and we start reintroducing things back into our lives, my hope is that we don't just go back to life as normal," he continues. "I hope we let go of the things that never really mattered and allow room in our lives for what has truly been missing. We have the opportunity to find a new type of happiness and way of life. That's what my song and upcoming EP are all about."

John Chandler's "Missing" is being released independently and is available now on Apple Music, Amazon and all other major retailers, as well as for streaming through Spotify. Its video is on YouTube.



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