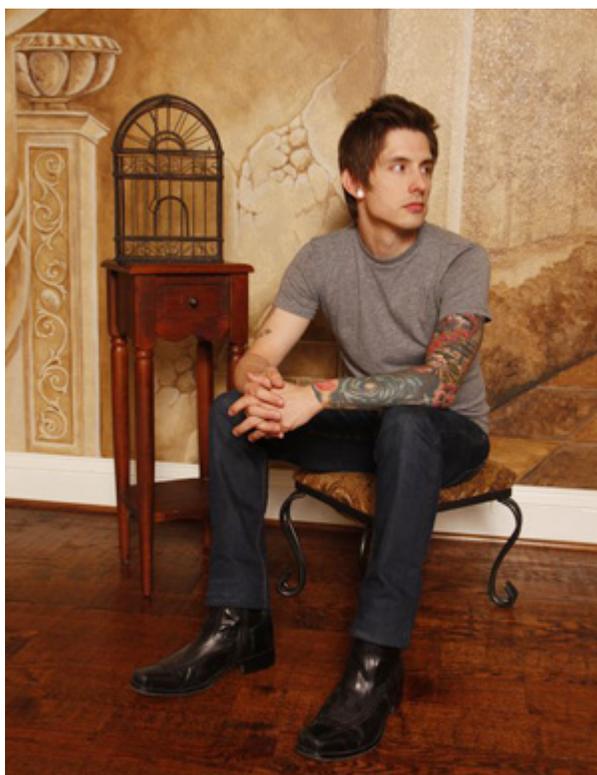


# Texas musician ceased ‘running from God’

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ROCKWALL—As Justin Brinker leads worship for ministry events around the state, he cannot help but tell about the influence of God’s unfailing love in his own life.

During his teen years, Brinker felt his life spinning out of control.



“I spent most of my life running from God, the church and anything to do with Christianity, because I could never shake my addictions to drugs and alcohol, along with the scars from growing up in a very dysfunctional home,” he said.

A pivotal turning point came when Brinker decided to stop running away from God and start running toward him—asking for help and forgiveness. In Christ, he discovered a Savior willing and waiting to rescue, redeem and restore.

“I finally realized I was running from the one who could heal me, and

things began to radically change for the better,” he noted.

As Brinker began to refocus during his college years at [East Texas Baptist University](#) in Marshall, he found a way to connect others to the life-changing love of Christ through music.

“When I started leading worship and playing with various bands, I realized how much I wanted to pursue music full time,” Brinker said.

“I also discovered that I absolutely loved leading worship. From the time I was 2, my mom had me singing. At the age of 5, I was playing the piano. I could never picture my life without music in some form or fashion. I’ve always felt a connection to music.”

Today, Brinker leads worship at the multiple campuses of [Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall](#), seeking to help people respond to God’s love with songs of adoration, praise and thanksgiving.

His newest album, *Let Love Grow*, is designed to inspire people to go further on this journey, as they pursue a daily walk with Christ.

“The songs were taken from life lessons—combined with experiences from leading worship and what God has shown me through others and through his word,” Brinker said. “I really want for people to understand that no matter where they are at in their journey, they are deeply loved by the Creator of the universe and that he has the power to make all things new.

“There is not an area of their life that grace can’t touch. To quote one of my favorite authors, Brennan Manning, ‘God loves you as you are, not as you should be.’ That has been a theme in my life, and my heart is filled with gratitude when I think of how much God loves me and continues to let grace permeate throughout my life ... despite my many faults and failures.

“There is nothing you can do that will make God love you less. So, stop

trying to run away from God, and rest in his unfailing love, forgiveness and grace.”