

## QUICK QUOTES

August 6, 2023



JUSTIN THOMAS ( -11)

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**Q. I think I heard you say it, but does this just reinforce the feelings that you've had that it's right there and you've about sort of got it back now?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** For sure. I think the biggest thing for me is I was in a great place mentally this week, which I haven't necessarily been in the last, you know, the last couple months. I mean, last three, four, five months.

I handled the moment really well. I felt like I obviously would have liked a couple shots, putts, whatever it was here or there, drives over again, but I made the best out of every situation that I had. And just, I mean, fought as hard as I possibly could. That's kind of what I've done my whole life, my whole career and I didn't want to stop here.

**Q. Has it been more getting it back mentally than physically?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Yeah, well, I feel like one comes the other; when one starts, the other starts and vice versa. So I think, I mean, obviously it doesn't matter how great of a place you're in mentally if you're swinging it terrible and you can't hit the ball where you want, that doesn't help. But at the same time, I feel like I've won golf tournaments without close to my best stuff.

There was kind of a balance or medium there of I needed to get better of thinking my way around the course and understanding that everything wasn't end of the world. But I also need to start playing better, just kind of getting those breaks, making those putts, just anything to kind of gain some momentum.

Yeah, so like I said, I felt like I'm very close for a while and I feel like I'm as close as I have been. I just hope I get a chance to have another go at it.

**Q. Second shot on 18, can you talk us what you were trying to do and what you saw?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Yeah. You know, it was kind of a -- obviously it was not a good drive. I felt like if I hit a low bullet, it was going to go through the fairway, so I tried to hit kind of a higher cut to land a little softer. Being in the pine straw is a good thing in terms of needing to work the ball, so I just tried to hook it as much as I could. I honestly felt like a 7-iron I knew -- an 8-iron I didn't know if I could get there, but I knew that the loft would help me hook it enough being uphill.

But when I hit it, I actually thought it had a chance to land near the front of the green and chase back to the hole, which my greedy self was trying to do. But I knew that that was



going to be in a good spot underneath, you know, short of the green to where I could get it up and down kind of thing.

**Q. And the pitch almost going in, you were on your back. That's got to be an incredible moment in a lot of ways for you.**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Yeah, it would have been a lot more incredible if it would have gone in.

Yeah, it's just so much can happen. I have other guys that are still out there both tied with me and ahead of me. I was in this situation my rookie year. I finished and I was projected at like 27th. I was told that I'm in the TOUR Championship, it's all good. Then.

Someone birdies four of his last five, someone birdies his last three, someone makes a 30-footer and all of a sudden I'm first man out. But at the same time that that can happen, the other way can happen.

I just, I did my part. I played the best I could and I fought as hard as I could and shot the lowest I possibly could. I just have to just hope that somehow it's good enough.

**Q. Are you going to stick around and watch?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** I mean, there's no -- I can't do anything, unless I dress up and try to start messing some people up, but if it did happen I feel like it wouldn't be good juju for the rest of my year or my career. But I don't know if I could even get out anyway with the storms. Like I said, I can't do anything at this point. I've just got to hope for the best.

