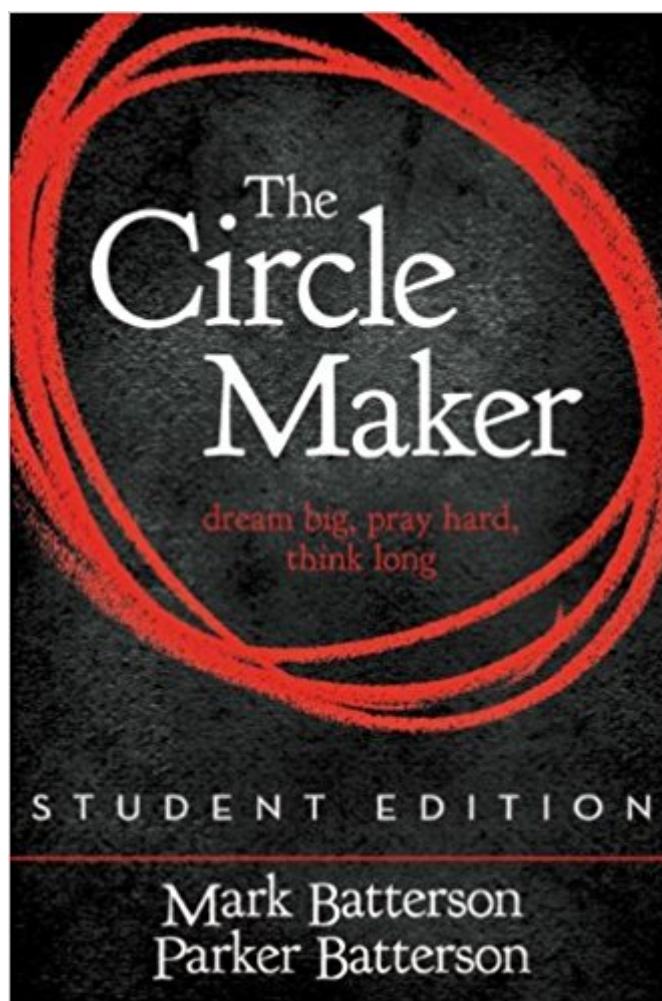


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# The Circle Maker Student Edition: Dream Big. Pray Hard. Think Long.



## Synopsis

Pray Circles Around Your Greatest Dreams and Biggest Fears Prayer can sometimes be a frightening thing—how do you approach the maker of the world, and what exactly can you pray for? In this student adaptation of *The Circle Maker*, Pastor Mark Batterson uses the true legend of Honi the circle maker, a first-century Jewish sage whose bold prayer saved a generation, to uncover the boldness God asks of us at times, and what powerful prayer can mean in your life. Drawing inspiration from his own experiences as a circle maker, as well as sharing stories of young people who have experienced God's blessings, Batterson explores how you can approach God in a new way by drawing prayer circles around your dreams, your problems, and, most importantly, God's promises. In the process, you'll discover this simple yet life-changing truth: God honors bold prayers; bold prayers honor God. And you're never too young for God to use you for amazing things.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This edition of Batterson's adult book of the same name calls upon young people to take a look at their lives, and encourages them to dream big, pray hard, and think long. Drawing on the example of a Talmudic holy man, Honi, whose story incorporates the image of a prayer circle, Batterson (with input from his son) uses this theme throughout as he invites readers to think of ways to enrich their lives and the lives of others through prayer. This also sounds, in some places, like a prosperity gospel, as readers are encouraged to ask for and expect miracles. Batterson shares his story and

that of his ministry, and while the stories are not always relevant to his audience (which he admits), his sincerity comes through. And unlike some other books of this ilk, this title does not so much make fanciful promises as it encourages readers to really consider their lives and what they need rather than what they want, and it shows them paths to peace and happiness. There are workbooklike activities at the end of each chapter, and because of the relatability of the message, kids may be moved to try them. Grades 8-12. --Cooper, Ilene

Mark Batterson serves as the lead pastor of National Community Church in Washington, D.C. Recognized as "one of America's 25 most innovative churches," NCC is one church with seven locations. Mark's blog ([www.markbatterson.com](http://www.markbatterson.com)) and webcast ([www.theaterchurch.com](http://www.theaterchurch.com)) also reach a virtual congregation around the world. Mark is the author of several bestselling books, including New York Times bestsellers *The Circle Maker* and *In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day*. He and his wife, Lora, live on Capitol Hill with their three children. You can follow Mark on Twitter:

@markbatterson

This is the second book by Mark Batterson that I have read in under a month. It was such an amazing read that when I finished it I flipped back to the first page and started reading it again, this time taking more time to digest and process the material. Though this student edition is co-written with his son Parker Batterson, it was also a great read as an adult. Now I must admit I have not read *The Circle Maker* (yet!) but this book was done in an amazing way and I highly recommend it. The sections in the book are: 1. The Legend of the Circle Maker 2. Circle makers 3. The Jericho Miracle 4. Praying Through The First Circle - Dream Big 5. Cloudy with a Chance of Quail 6. You Can't Never Always Sometimes Tell 7. The Solution to Ten Thousand Problems The Second Circle - Pray Hard 8. Persistence Quotient 9. The Favor of Him Who Dwells in the Burning Bush Game of Chicken 10. No Answer The Third Circle - Think Long 11. Long and Boring 12. The Greatest of them All 13. The Speed prayer 14. Life Goal List Keep Circling 15. Now There Was One Appendix Notes Almost every chapter has a personal example that starts with an ideal, goal or prompting from God. Then there is a comparison to a biblical case or story. Then it ends with circling back and Mark and Parker telling us how it came to pass. Each chapter also has three questions that can be used for group discussion, or personal reflection. These questions will help you to go deeper with the material being presented and help you examine your life and practices. This book will confront how you see prayer, what you pray for, how you pray. Mark states: "Prayer was never meant to be a one-sided conversation; it was meant to be a dialogue! Think of Scripture as God's part of the script; and

prayer our part." p. 86 Like many of the biblical stories we have a part to play, we need to call out from the side of the road, we need to lower our friends through the hole in the roof, we need to pick up our mat and walk. All depending on what God shows us and our obedience in following him. "The common denominator in each of these stories is holy desperation. People took desperate measures to get to God, and God honored them for it. Nothing has changed. God is still honoring spiritual desperadoes who crash parties and climb trees. God is still honoring those who defy the way things should be with their bold prayers. God is still honoring those who pray with bravery and stubbornness." So pick up the book, read and pray and become a prayer warrior pursuing God and his will, and his solutions to what life throws at you.

This book is very challenging and encouraging to anyone regardless of where their prayer walk is at. Every time I read one of the circle maker books, I am challenged in a new way. The books are all about the power of prayer and how to circle your dreams and God's plan for your life in bold and confident prayer. It challenges you to keep praying through even when it gets hard and reminds you that God always listens and responds to our prayers. His answer may not be what we always expect, but it is always perfect and for our best! Mark Batterson tells some amazing stories about prayer and has so much insight and wisdom on prayer! Awesome book and HIGHLY recommend!

I really enjoyed this book. It lends a whole new perspective on prayer and faith. It puts into the readers hands, a more solid way to pray while teaching how to put into practice the patience to wait for our answers from God. Batterson has a charming wit that makes this book reader friendly and memorable. This isn't one of those books that you read and forget about. It's a book that you will put into practice and use everyday of your life. It draws you close to God.

Loved the original book so much, I bought this one for my granddaughter!

This book should be a required reading for all believers young and old. You won't be sorry you took the time to read this inspiring book.

This book is very similar to the original just simplified a little.

This is a great book for those who want to enhance their prayer life and get results from God. This book should be read with an open heart & open mind...then put into practice what is taught in Jesus'

Name.

Great book! Definitely will get a teenager thinking and praying beyond themselves. Our book club thoroughly enjoyed the book and the discussion.

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