

**Interview Questions for Mark Batterson**  
**Author of *Play the Man:***  
***Becoming the Man God Created You to Be***

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“You don’t have to eat the heart of a bear or sleep inside a dead horse like Leonardo DiCaprio in ‘The Revenant.’ That might win you some man points, or even an Oscar, but that’s isn’t what playing the man is all about.”

– Mark Batterson

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- What is the origin of the phrase ***Play the Man*** – and why is it a needed call for men today?
- You write in your book ***Play the Man***, “I want to be famous in my home.” What do you mean by that?
- Your book describes Seven Virtues of Manhood. How did you choose these seven, and which is the hardest for you to master?
- You offer President Teddy Roosevelt (Chapter 2) as an example of a real man. What about President Roosevelt do you hope men will emulate?
- What is the secret to sinning less (p 71)?
- You talk about two kinds of power in you book, *dynamis* and *exousia* (pp 68-70). What’s the difference and why are they both important?
- What is a “third baptism” (pp 79-82) and why is it important?
- You reverse engineer the challenges that men face and boil it down to three, which you call the three-headed dragon (pp 88-95). What are those three challenges and how do men overcome them?
- One of the seven virtues is “true grit”. Why is that one of the seven virtues? And how is it exemplified in the life of Jesus?
- What advice would you give you to fathers who feel like they’ve failed?
- In Chapter 6 on clear vision, you talk about your core values as a family. What are they and how did you come up with them?
- Do you believe Christianity has made men too “safe”?
- The first half of the book focuses on playing the man while the second half focuses on making the man. What does that mean? And how have you done that with your sons?
- Of the seven virtues, which do you believe is the most difficult? And which do you believe is the most important?
- In the second half of the book, you outline a year of discipleship, discipleship covenant, and rite of passage that you took your sons through. Tell me about that.
- Why was it important to create a specific rite of passage for your sons? What did you do with your sons? And how can other fathers (or mothers) do the same for their sons?

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**Guest:** Mark Batterson, author, lead pastor of National Community Church (WDC)

**Social Media Tags:** @MarkBatterson #PlaytheMan

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