

A Biblically Shaped Life: Like a Winning Athlete

2 Timothy 2:5

⁵ *An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.*

Context: Every Christian's call to discipleship *and* disciple making (2 Tim. 2:1-6)

The focused _____ of a good soldier ...

The faithful _____ of a winning athlete ...

The persevering _____ of a hard-working farmer ...

"Without commitment, there will be no victory in battle, no medal at the race's end, and no harvest in the field." – Alistair Begg

Three implications of the metaphor of a "winning athlete":

1) _____ . (1 Tim. 4:7)

Posers _____ . Athletes _____ . There's a huge difference.

2) _____ .

Reality? Not everyone _____ .

3) _____ .

The prize is given at the _____ , not at the _____ !

An athlete must be ...

- _____ - Hebrews 12:1
- _____ - Galatians 5:7
- _____ - 1st Corinthians 9:24
- _____ - 1st Corinthians 9:25
- _____ - 1st Corinthians 9:26-27

An athlete's greatest threat is _____ .

The issue is my _____ , not my _____ .

An athlete's best defense is _____ .

The ultimate ambition and reward of a "winning athlete": 2 Timothy 4:7-8

⁷ *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

⁸ *Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.*