

Practical Portraits for Potent Christian Living:

1. Athletes –

- a. Straining forward – intense effort and firm purpose. (Phil. 3:13)
- b. Strive to win (1 Cor. 9:24)
- c. Self-control in all things (1 Cor. 9:25-27)
- d. Superiority of the prize (1 Cor. 9:25)
- e. Setting aside sins sacrificially (Heb. 12:1)
- f. Stamina for our set race (Heb. 12:1)
- g. Sight fixed on our Saviour (Heb. 12:2)
- h. Submissive (2 Tim. 2:5)

2. Soldiers –

- a. Share in suffering as a good soldier (2 Tim. 2:3)
- b. Separation from entanglements of civilians (2 Tim. 2:4)
- c. Single-minded aim to please God (2 Tim. 2:4)
- d. Sensible to the spiritual nature of our warfare (2 Cor. 10:4-5; 1 Pet. 2:11)

3. Farmers –

- a. Sedulous – Hard-working (2 Tim. 2:6)
- b. Steady – patient. (2 Tim. 2:6; Heb. 10:36)
- c. Share in the crops (2 Tim. 2:6; Heb. 10:36)
- d. Sowing the seeds of the gospel (1 Cor. 3:6-9; Luke 10:2; Mat. 9:37-38)

4. Citizens – of heaven (Phil. 3:17-21; Eph. 2:19-22))

- a. God is our God
- b. Glory in His Name (Christ) and gladly face ‘shame’ for the Name.
- c. Goals - Mind is set on heavenly things.
- d. Gladness - Waiting for our savior
- e. Gathered - Fellow citizens, member of the household of God ‘being built together’.

5. Ambassadors – (2 Cor. 5:16-21)

- a. Ministry of reconciliation
- b. Message of reconciliation
- c. Mouth-pieces for God

6. Servant – of Christ

- a. Trustworthy (1 Cor. 4:1-2)
- b. True-hearted ‘doing the will of God from the heart’ (Eph. 6:5-8)
- c. Trained on the words of faith and good doctrine for godliness (1 Tim. 4:6-9)
- d. Tractable – easy to control, bend work with. Subservient spirited (Luke 17:7-10)
- e. Tested and commended (Mat. 25:21)

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