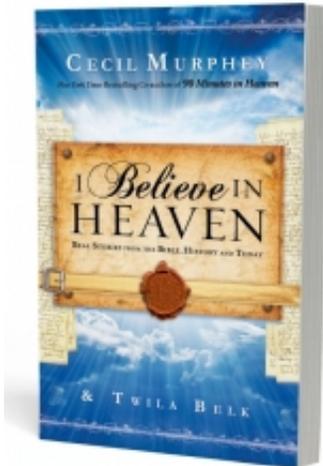


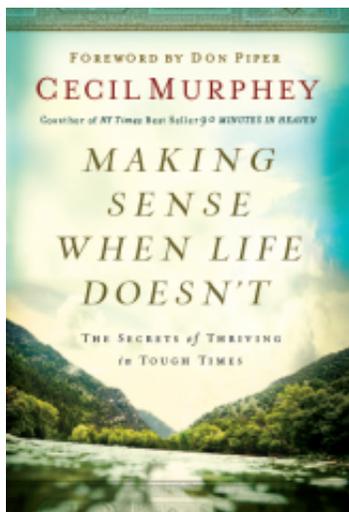


Cecil Murphey

WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR

I Believe in Heaven is scheduled for a spring release. Do you have a heaven story? Click on the picture above for details.



A blogger who doesn't know Cec reviewed

"Busy, Very Busy"

Six months after George's retirement, I asked, "How are you doing these days?"

"I'm busy, very busy. I'm busier now than before I retired."

His words shocked me. I thought retirement meant cessation of work and an opportunity to relax and enjoy sitting on the porch or taking a daily nap. I've since heard those same words from others.

Those statements imply the significance of productivity—of usefulness—of having value because of what they accomplish. Some of us hold the secret fear that if we don't keep doing something *practical* we're worth nothing. Therefore, we keep proving we're significant by our output.

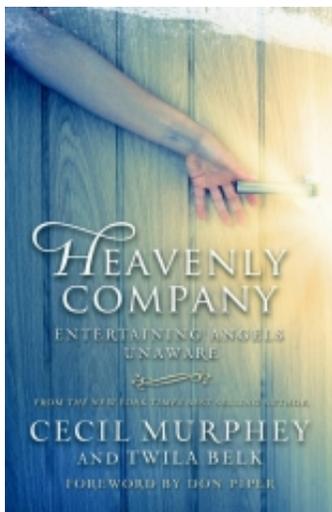
For most of my life, that's been true of me. It's taken me years to say that staying constantly on the go doesn't make me a more worthwhile person. It means I've missed out on simple pleasures because I didn't want to "waste" time, and every minute had to count for something.

Maybe that's why God created our bodies to wear out—we're forced to slow down, to do less, and to appreciate the quiet moments of life.

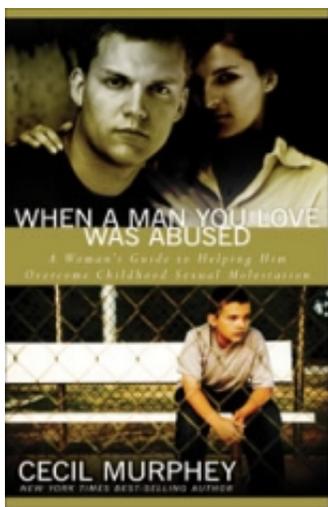
Some may laugh that I'd talk about retiring and relishing life because I stay busy. Some days that reality saddens me because I'm not apt at doing nothing.

By contrast, the first question and answer of the Westminster Shorter Catechism, written in 1647, goes this way: "What is the chief end of man? [We'd say *humanity* today.] The answer: "The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever."

this book on October 2 and said, "I cannot express how much *Making Sense When Life Doesn't* has touched my life...."



This book is filled with stories of real people who have had real encounters with real angels at a moment of crisis or point of desperation. Powerful!



We read in the headlines almost every day about people who have abused or were abused. The effects of abuse are long lasting. Cec offers help for survivors in this book.

Most of us don't grasp that second part. To enjoy God certainly means to find pleasure in being alive. Many of us are too busy to delight—regularly—in the things of life.

I don't know when I'll retire, but I already have an answer I want to give when someone asks, "How are you doing since you retired?"

"Not very much."

*The more I value who I am,
the less I have to prove who I am.*

Personal News

Except for TV and radio interviews, I've postponed or canceled the rest of my scheduled activities for October. I'm not retiring; I'm stepping back to focus on enjoying my life.

Yesterday, I realized that I have eight books scheduled for 2013 release. *Eight?* Only compulsively driven people do things like that. I've chosen to rid myself of that label.

We Want Stories for Our New Book

Twila Belk and I have contracted for a book called *I Believe in Heaven*, scheduled for spring 2013 release. We want 3 types of stories:

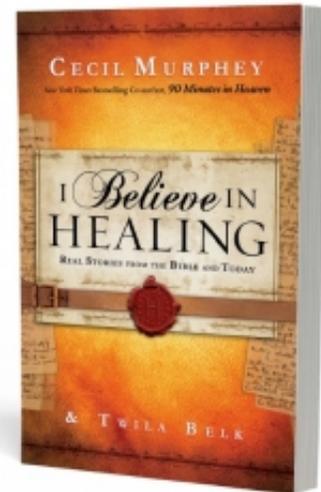
1. First-person accounts of someone who died, went to heaven, and returned. (E.g., Don Piper or the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:1–10.)
2. First-person, near-death stories (such as those who felt they saw themselves above the operating table during surgery, went through a tunnel and into bright light before being whisked back to their bodies).
3. Third-person stories of those who have been at the bedside of a dying person who saw angels or Jesus coming to take them to heaven.

For guidelines on how to submit and further information, [click here](#).

The Twila Zone—Words from



Kregel Publications plans to release *Not Quite Healed: 40 Truths for Male Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse* in February 2013.



I Believe in Healing: Stories from the Bible, History, and Today will be available in February. It's filled with life-changing stories and showcases the God who still heals today.

My Assistant, Twila Belk

We've just received word that Choice Books has placed a nice order for [Making Sense When Life Doesn't](#). Cec continues to have good response from his many interviews for the book, and we receive great feedback from those who have read it. I have a sneakin' hunch in might just be Cec's next best-seller.

If you're tired of all the political ads and chatter these days, why not escape to a quiet place and read a good book? I highly recommend [Heavenly Company: Entertaining Angels Unaware](#). It's a great alternative to what's on TV. Guideposts posted *Angel to the Rescue*—one of the stories from the book—on their website. [Click here to read it.](#)

Do you have people in your life who've been abused? Cec's [new 18-minute video](#) might provide help. He tells his story and has a Q & A time with the audience afterward.

A companion book to Cec's [When a Man You Love Was Abused](#) is now available. Kregel Publications just released Dawn Scott Jones's [When a Woman You Love Was Abused](#). Cec's follow-up book, [Not Quite Healed](#), is scheduled for a February release.

Looking for a good writers conference? The [CLASS Christian Writers Conference](#) takes place at the end of this month in New Mexico. I'll be there to teach and to represent the Cecil Murphey empire. I'd love to meet you.

Cec Links: (1) [Blog for writers](#), (2) [Blog for male survivors of sexual abuse](#), (3) [Twitter](#), (4) [YouTube](#), (5) [Facebook—Cec and Me, with Cecil Murphey and Twila Belk](#), (6) [Facebook—Because You Care: Spiritual Encouragement for Caregivers](#), (7) [Facebook—When Someone You Love No Longer Remembers](#), (8) [Facebook—When Someone You Love Has Cancer](#), (9) [Facebook—Christmas Miracles](#), (10) [Facebook—Men Shattering the Silence](#), (11) [Twila's website](#), (12) [Twila's email](#)

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