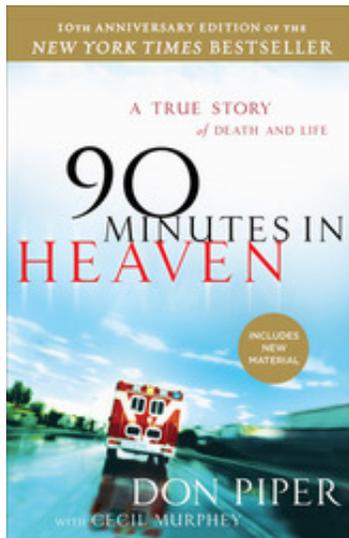




Cecil Murphey
 WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR 



The 10th Anniversary Edition of the *New York Times* bestseller [90 Minutes in Heaven](#) becomes available later this month. It includes new material.

Looking for a good writers conference?

Cec and/or Twila will teach at the following conferences:

June 19-21

[Cedar Falls Christian Writers Workshop](#), Cedar Falls, IA (Cec)

When Success Becomes a Failure

In 1972, the acclaimed Academy-award winner actor George Sanders committed suicide. He left a note that began: "I am leaving because I am bored."

A movie and TV star for four decades, Sanders also recorded one album as a singer that did well, and critics called his autobiography witty. Why did life bore him? At the time, many puzzled people said, "The man had everything."

Or maybe Sanders realized that even his success was a failure. Many of us work hard to attain our goals, but what if the results feel empty? Perhaps we expected too much and received too little. We get what we wanted; then don't we don't want what we earned.

Attaining our objective seems to be the end; in reality, achievements signal a new beginning. Success means we climbed a few rungs on the ladder of personal triumph. They prepare us to take the next step upward. By trudging onward, we dream larger dreams.

I believe in striving to achieve our dreams. However, if we assume reaching a desired objective settles all our wants, eventually we ask ourselves, "Is that all there is?" If we pin everything on the reaching of one target, we'll end up disappointed, perhaps frustrated, or possibly depressed. That's when success becomes a failure.

But what if each achievement prepares us for bigger challenges? What if our purpose is not to stop as long as we breathe?

As I ponder my life, I've accomplished my material aspirations. Friends chide me for continuing to write and teach. "You don't have anything to prove," they say. They don't understand that my joy comes from going forward. I continue to seek new mountains to climb. I call myself a serious Christian, which means I enjoy my life as I discover new challenges. There's always something wonderful yet ahead.

If I have one singular goal, it's to hear Jesus say, "Well done, good and faithful

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[Speak Up Conference](#), Grand Rapids, MI (Twila)

July 20-25

[Montrose Christian Writers Conference](#), Montrose, PA (Cec)

July 30-August 2

[Greater Philadelphia Christian Writers Conference](#), Philadelphia, PA (Cec and Twila)

September 19-20

Writing for the Soul Conference, Murfreesboro, TN (Cec)

October 17-19

[New England Christian Writers Retreat](#), Singing Hills, NH (Cec and Twila)



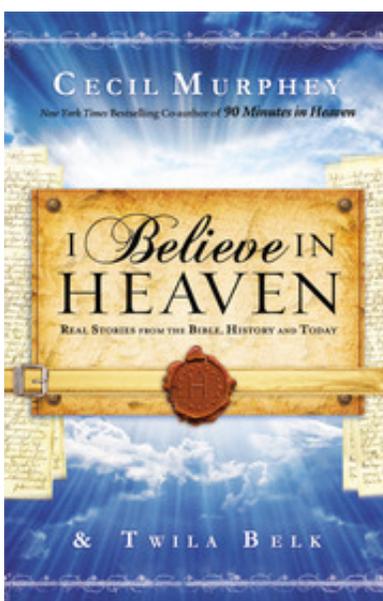
- (1) [Cec's website](#)
- (2) [Cec's blog for writers](#)
- (3) [Cec's blog for male survivors of sexual abuse](#)
- (4) [Cec's Twitter](#)
- (5) [Facebook: Cecil Murphey Author/Speaker](#)
- (6) [Facebook: Cec and Me. with Cecil Murphey and Twila Belk](#)
- (7) [Twila's website](#)
- (8) [Twila's email](#)



Cec lets his fun side out--on the left with actor/screenwriter/comedian Torry Martin and on the right with the editors at the Christian PEN convention.

Personal News

- June begins my three months of extensive travels—seven out-of-state trips.
- June 7, I'll speak for [Glory Reelz Film Festival](#) in Detroit and at the [Graham Community Church](#) in Laingsburg, MI, on June 8.
- June 17, I leave for Iowa where I'll keynote and teach at a [writers conference in Cedar Falls](#), conduct a wedding, and preach the next day in Waterloo. On that trip, I'll also see my three widowed sisters, all of whom have serious health problems.



The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

Cec and I are delighted that [I Believe in Heaven: Real Stories from the Bible, History and Today](#) is a finalist for a Golden Scrolls Award. The Golden Scrolls banquet will be held on Sunday, June 22, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

Do you live in the Baltimore area? Save July 26 on your calendar to visit Cec at the [Arundel Mills Books A Million](#) in Hanover, Maryland. He'll be there to sign books and chat with readers.

Cec would welcome the opportunity to preach in the Baltimore area on July 27.

Please [contact me](#) if you know of a church that might like to extend an invitation. Smaller churches are okay.



**Have a question about Cec?
Interested in having him speak
for your church or organization?
[Contact Twila.](#)**

I've recently received many notices mentioning free PDF downloads for Cec's books. If you're enticed by one of those messages, please refrain from clicking the download. We've learned it's a scam that puts viruses on computers.

Later this month I'll be at the AWSA conference and the International Christian Retail Show in Atlanta, and fly from there to teach at the [Speak Up Conference](#) in Grand Rapids, Michigan. If you're at any of the events, make sure to connect with me.

Gotta Tell Somebody, Inc. | 5672 Appleton Road | Bettendorf, IA 52722

