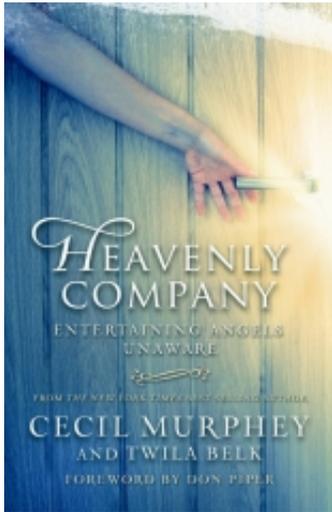


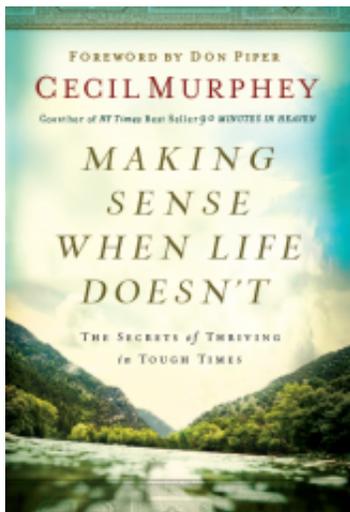


Cecil Murphey

WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR

Heavenly Company: Entertaining Angels Unaware, a Guideposts publication, is now available for purchase.



Cec is talking about this book and this topic on the airwaves across the nation. He shares his secrets for thriving in tough times.

"Why Would You Want Enemies?"

I called a chapter "Needing My Enemies" in my book [*Making Sense When Life Doesn't*](#). The host on a radio interview asked, "Why do you want enemies?"

"I don't want enemies," I said, "but I need them. And if the word *enemies* is too strong, try *opponents*."

"I wrote that because our opponents force us to hear things about ourselves that our friends won't say." I told her about a conversation years ago that turned into an argument. The woman became quite enraged and finally yelled, "You always have to be right!"

Afterward, I replayed the incident inside my head. The words stung and I mentally defended myself. After reflection, I admitted she was correct in charging me with needing to be right.

By contrast, my good friends wouldn't have said those words. They would have shrugged and said, "That's the way Cec is."

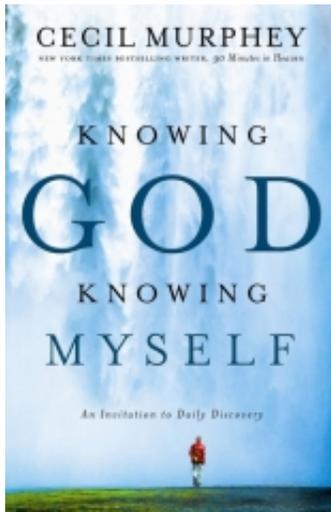
Even though our opponents aren't always accurate and are often unkind, we need to sift whatever they say. Truth often lurks in their angry charges. That day I listened and it brought about a distinct change in my attitude and behavior.

Twenty years after the incident, the accusing woman and I talked together. We had long moved beyond our differences. She asked me a question and I said, "I have a couple of ideas, but I don't know."

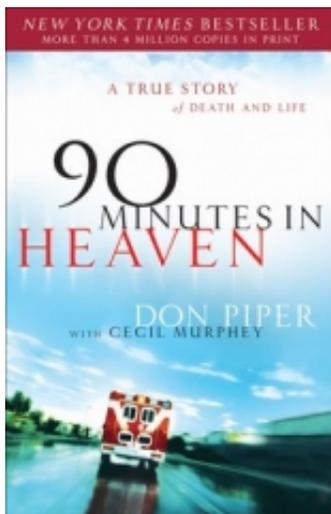
"You've changed," she said. "You used to know everything."

We both laughed. But she was right.

I finally figured out that I don't have to be the authority or the know-all-things person. In fact, my enemies have helped me grasp that it's all right to be ignorant about some things.



Amazon has a great price on *Knowing God, Knowing Myself* right now. You can buy one for \$6. Better yet, you can get two for \$12.



Good news for *90 Minutes in Heaven*--it's now available in Russian, and filming for the full-length feature film begins in September.

I don't want enemies—but they find me anyway. Even though I still don't want them, I also admit I need them.

My detractors force me to see myself more honestly. It's not easy, but it's important if I want to grow.

Personal News

- [*90 Minutes in Heaven*](#) has now been translated into Russian, which is language number 26.
- I've finished the manuscript for Eva Piper's book, with the working title *A Walk in the Dark*. (Eva is Don Piper's wife, and this is the inside story of what she went through.)
- I fly to Portland, OR for a conference August 13 through 16.
- I continue to do a lot of radio interviews, and next month I fly to Illinois and Indiana for TV interviews.
- Twila and I are going to do another compilation book called *I Believe in Heaven*. The publisher of our spring 2013 release, *I Believe in Healing*, contacted me and asked us to do a book on heaven as a companion volume. Do you have a story? See Twila's notes below.

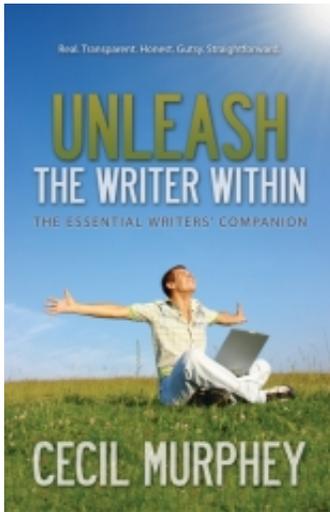
The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

We're getting good feedback about Cec's book [*Making Sense When Life Doesn't*](#). The topic applies to people in various life situations. In one of Cec's recent interviews, the hostess geared the interview around the shootings in Colorado. [You can listen to that interview here.](#)

[Terry Whalin](#) wrote a fine review of [*Making Sense When Life Doesn't*](#) and posted it to his blog, Amazon, and other online sites. Thank you to Terry and others who help get the word out about Cec's books. All money received from the sale of his books goes into a nonprofit account and helps other writers and ministries.

[*Heavenly Company: Entertaining Angels Unaware*](#) is now available. Cec and I had a fun book signing for it at the International Christian Retail Show in Orlando. The book includes true-life accounts from ordinary people who have experienced the ministry of angels in a crisis. It's an encouraging read.

As Cec mentioned in his personal news, we'll soon start work on *I Believe in Heaven*. We're looking for stories of people who've had a powerful, spiritual encounter where they believe they literally went to heaven or they had a near-death experience. If you know of



Cec offers help for writers through *Unleash the Writer Within* and his blog at www.cecwrightowriter.com.



Cec and Twila have their first book signing together for *Heavenly Company* at ICRS in Orlando.

someone with a story, please contact me with details at twilabelk@mchsi.com. We'll provide more information in next month's newsletter.

And now for last month's Cecil Murphey trivia results: Nancy Lohr and Gary Lefmann were the first two who responded with correct answers. They received a free copy of *Knowing God. Knowing Myself*. Here are the questions and answers:

1) Cec wrote a book for a woman on death row. What was her name?
Velma Barfield

2) Name two things Cec enjoys other than writing and speaking. **Here are some of the answers I received that were correct: harassing Twila, spending time with Shirley and family, being a curmudgeon, supporting new writers, eating, sleeping, reading, praying, running, traveling, visiting with friends, gardening, and encouraging others.**

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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