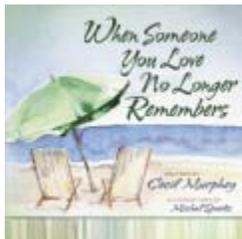




Follow Cec on Twitter or through one of his links at the end of the newsletter.



A reviewer says, "This book is an easy-to-read, informative, beautifully designed and comforting gift for anyone who knows or is responsible for someone with Alzheimers."

Doing the Natural

I like it when people write me thank-you notes—who doesn't? Everyone wins. They express gratitude and, as a result, I feel appreciated.

Today I asked myself: Do I need to be thanked for what I do naturally? I don't get tired of reading emails or handwritten notes, but do I *need* them? Most of the time I don't *need* them even though I enjoy reading them; however, their words encourage me to know I've done the right thing.

I raise this because I've received a number of warm, kind letters from people who thank me for providing scholarships to them through various writers conferences.

When I give the money, I'm doing what's natural. It's not a burden or something I have to force myself to do. I like to help.

As soon as I began to make a living as a writer, I started passing on the benefits. To provide assistance is a divinely given gift. Assisting others is part of who I am. When I give, it springs from a natural impulse.

We all have gifts, even though they're not the same. For some it's cheering others on, for another person it may be teaching or mentoring. What about the folk who joyfully offer hospitality and food to the needy?

We're created to live in community with other human beings and most of us aren't solitary creatures. So it seems obvious to me that true bliss comes by discovering what makes us happy in serving.

What do you do for others that gives you pleasure? The things we do may seem ordinary; we might not consider them as gifts.

That's the best part: Doing the natural, most obvious thing is exercising the gift and gives us greater happiness.

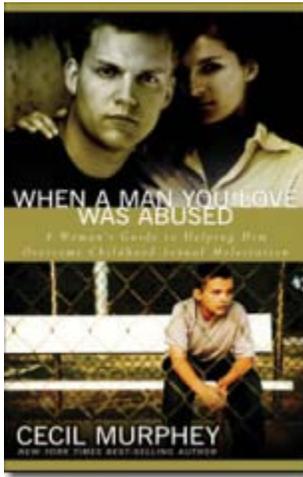
Whatever gives me pleasure in helping others indicates that it's my natural way—my gift.

Personal News

I'm scheduled to speak to the Logos bookstore managers July 8, just before the opening of the annual International Christian Retail Show in Atlanta (July 10-13). I have a heavy schedule of interviews, business meetings, and I'll do a booksigning for [When Someone You Love No Longer Remembers](#).

Saturday, July 23, I'll be in Grand Rapids. Dawn Jones, Shelly Beach, and I will hold a three-hour seminar for those whose lives have been affected by childhood sexual abuse.

In August I'll keynote and teach at the [Greater Philadelphia Writers Conference](#) (August 10-13).



When a Man You Love Was Abused won the Foreword Book of the Year bronze award in the Family and Relationships Category. The awards were announced June 25.

The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

Congratulations to Cec for receiving the Foreword Book of the Year bronze award for [When a Man You Love Was Abused](#). It took six years to find a publisher who was willing to take a risk on this project, and now it's helping countless people. Cec also has a [blog to help male survivors of sexual abuse](#). We're getting great response and much gratitude for these resources.

We've heard from many people who appreciate Cec's new book [When Someone You Love No Longer Remembers](#). My assistant, Gail, knows the heartache of having loved ones who no longer remember. She set up a [FaceBook page](#) where she provides resources and the opportunity for people to share challenges and memories they face. We hope this page will be a source of comfort and inspiration to loved ones dealing with Alzheimer's patients.

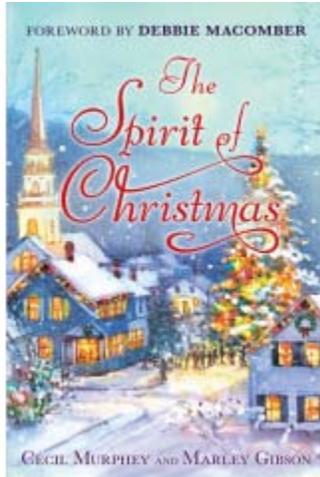
Cec and I have a compilation project in the works, tentatively titled *Heavenly Company: Entertaining Angels and Other Strangers*. It's scheduled for a fall 2012 release, and we need stories. More details will follow in next month's newsletter.

Cec and I look forward to teaching at the Greater Philadelphia Christian Writers Conference next month. To see a special video message from Cec, visit the conference website at <http://www.writehisanswer.com/philadelphia/>.

Big news! Cec now has a Twitter account. You can follow him at www.twitter.com/cecmurphey.



Cec will keynote and teach at the Greater Philadelphia Christian Writers Conference next month. Click on the picture for Cec's video message.



The Spirit of Christmas-- a heartwarming collection of true stories that will inspire, entertain, and get everyone into the spirit of Christmas--will be available this fall. Bestselling author Debbie Macomber wrote the foreword.



Cec and Twila are at it again. Listen to the *Cec and Me* show live on Tuesday nights at Toginet.com, or by podcast at the Toginet.com site, or through iTunes. Click the pic for the link.

Links of Interest

[Cec's website](#)

[Cec's blog for writers](#)

[Cec's blog for male survivors of sexual abuse](#)

[The *Cec and Me* radio show](#)

[Follow Cec on Twitter](#)