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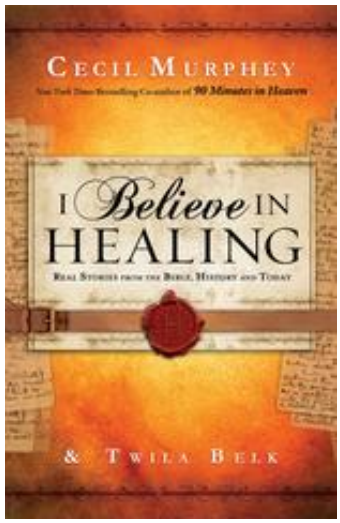
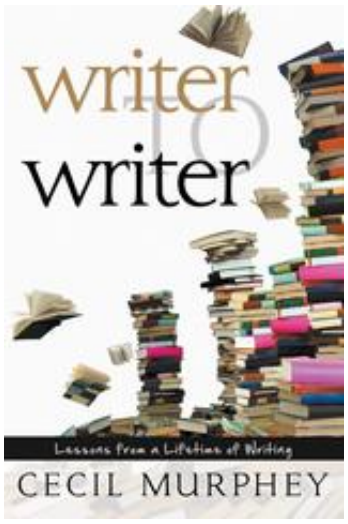
Cecil Murphey

WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR



Cec and Twila are excited about the release of *I Believe in Healing: Real Stories from the Bible, History and Today*. It's now available for purchase.



Good news for writers! Cec shares lessons he's learned from a lifetime of writing in his new book.

Relearning Lessons

How many times do I have to relearn a lesson? I assumed that once I said, "Got it!" I could move on to something new in my life.

For the past few years, whenever I've faced traumatic problems, I've asked God, "What makes me need this crisis now?" or "What do I need to learn from this?" Even though I haven't always received answers, I've been able to accept the reality of the situation.

In the middle of the night on March 2, Shirley fell. Her left leg was paralyzed and she cried out in severe pain. I drove her to the ER and she remained in the hospital for a week. From there, she spent three weeks in residential rehab.

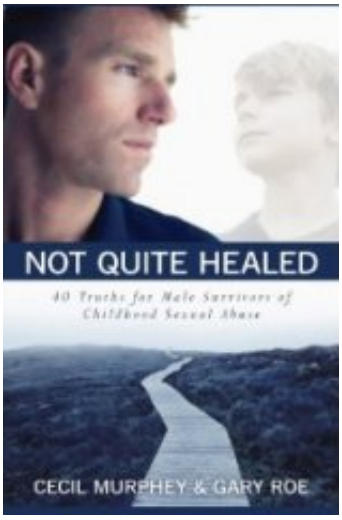
As her physician confirmed, her spine had seriously deteriorated and surgery wasn't an option. They wanted to provide her with enough medication to keep the pain level low.

Her falling happened at a time when I had to finish five books—mostly doing the final polish and responding to the publishers' editorial markings.

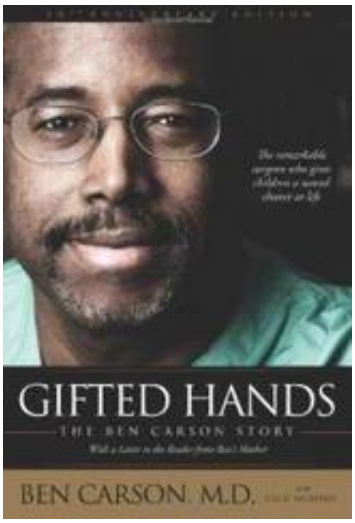
I spent part of each day with Shirley and tried to work for a couple of hours at home. I felt inadequate at both. In the midst of the conflict, I became overwhelmed, agitated, and anxious—the kind of responses I've heard from other harried caregivers.

In the middle of Shirley's second week in rehab, with no idea when they would release her, I felt I couldn't take any more pressure. But more came. The worst involved my taxes. The woman who had prepared my taxes for four years messed up badly and I had to turn to someone else for help. More time; more energy.

That evening, I lay in bed exhausted and cried out for God's help. Hardly a minute passed before I remembered (finally) the question I had asked in the past: *What do I need to learn from this?*



Not Quite Healed **is another good resource for men who have been abused and those who love them.**



Sales of *Gifted Hands* continue to grow because of Dr. Ben Carson's recent national media exposure.

I remembered (finally) a simple sentence that I had used in the past when facing huge obstacles: "All I can do is all I can do."

Although simple, those few words reminded me that God expects me to do only what I can do. When I asked the right question, peace came. The burden lifted—and I have remained at peace. Nine more days passed before Shirley came home.

I re-learned a lesson. But why didn't I have an instant victory after the first moment of pressure? Perhaps appreciating the inner peace after going through anxieties made the experience even more valuable.

Maybe that *was* my answer.

Personal News

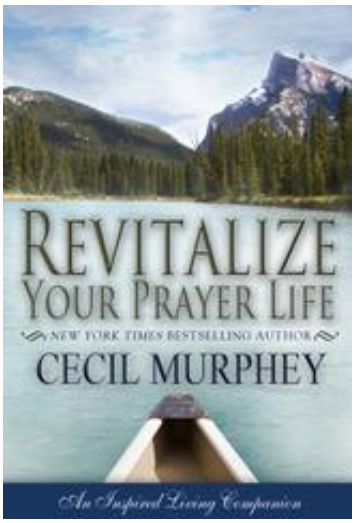
- ***I Believe in Healing*****, co-written with Twila Belk, has just come off the press. I'm more excited about this book than I've been about any in a long time. The first part of the book contains well-documented stories of physical healing. Part 2 provides the biblical, theological, and historical background. We're already getting positive responses.**
- **In March, Zondervan reprinted *Gifted Hands* in hardback, soft cover, and mass paper for a total of 41,000 copies—a book originally published in 1990, that has continued to sell year after year. They also reprinted all three sizes of *Think Big* for a total of 25,000 copies. That book has been in print since 1992.**
- **I've received a contract to write a book for Katariina Rosenblatt, who was lured into sex trafficking three times before her final escape.**

The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

Central High School in Davenport, Iowa, will induct Cec into their Hall of Honor on Friday, April 19. I've arranged for a local TV story that will air on April 19 and an author event at the Barnes & Noble in Davenport on Saturday, April 20, at 10:30 a.m. If you live in the Quad Cities area, please stop in and say hi. You'll hear some of Cec's fascinating stories, have the opportunity to ask questions, and be able to purchase his books.

I've barely gotten over the shock that Cec finally listened to me and wrote his book for writers called *Unleash the Writer Within*, but now I'm having a relapse. He's just finished a second book for writers. *Writer to Writer: Lessons from a Lifetime of Writing* is now available for purchase. It isn't a grammar book. It isn't a rulebook for writers. It's an "in the

In March, Zondervan reprinted *Gifted Hands* and *Think Big* because of the increase in sales.



We'll have details in next month's newsletter about how to purchase *Revitalize Your Prayer Life* in ebook format.

trenches" companion for your writing journey, whether you're just starting out or you've been writing for years. To learn about a sweet deal for writers groups and conferences, click here.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a month dedicated to education, awareness, and prevention. As an abuse survivor, Cec knows that the effects of abuse can last a lifetime. He wrote *When a Man You Love Was Abused* and his new book, *Not Quite Healed*, to help survivors and those who love them. His Shattering the Silence blog is also a great help.

Every Monday Crosswalk.com publishes a devotion from Cec's out-of-print book, *Invading the Privacy of God*. Because of the amount of feedback from those devotions and requests for the book we receive, we've decided to make it available in ebook format. Next month I'll have details and links for the book with its new title: *Revitalize Your Prayer Life*.

Cec Links: (1) Website, (2) Blog for writers, (3) Blog for male survivors of sexual abuse, (4) Twitter, (5) YouTube, (6) Facebook—Cec and Me, with Cecil Murphey and Twila Belk, (7) Facebook—Because You Care: Spiritual Encouragement for Caregivers, (8) Facebook—When Someone You Love No Longer Remembers, (9) Facebook—When Someone You Love Has Cancer, (10) Facebook—Christmas Miracles, (11) Facebook—Men Shattering the Silence, (12) Cec's Amazon Author Page, (13) Twila's website, (14) Twila's email

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