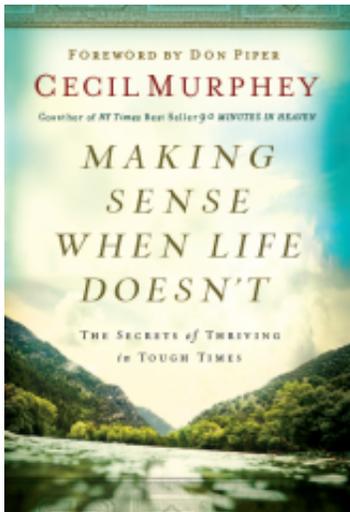


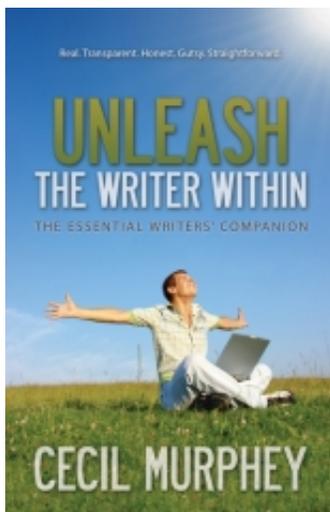


Cecil Murphey

WRITER * SPEAKER * TEACHER * SURVIVOR



Cec shares secrets of thriving in tough times in his newest book.



Do you want to be authentic

Planned Procrastination

People who know me can't believe that I occasionally struggle with procrastination, but I do. The Africans called me Haraka, which means quick or fast—and that's my usual way. Grab whatever needs doing. Finish it. Now.

Except.

Occasionally I'll encounter a situation where I know I need to act, but I'm not ready. For example, Twila and I have contracted for a book called *I Believe in Healing*. I had written more than 70,000 words in a disorganized document of 300 plus pages. I had done enough research that I needed to organize it into an outline and make the pieces fit into a coherent book.

I couldn't figure it out. No matter how I tried to organize the material, it didn't work. I did what I call planned procrastination.

Monday morning I decided I would start the outline *Thursday*. That meant the outline was no longer something about which I needed to be concerned. I prayed about Thursday and asked God to help me as part of my planned procrastination. Whenever the topic came to me, I'd remind myself, "Thursday is the day to start."

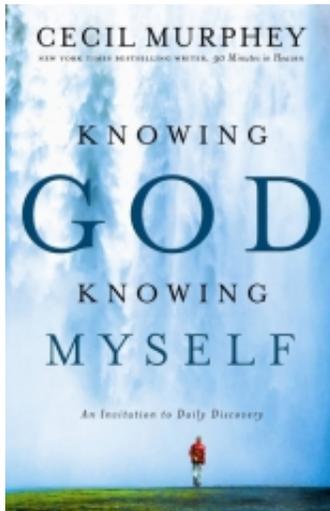
When I awakened Thursday morning, I had an inkling of how to do the outline and I spent a couple of hours on it. After perhaps an hour, *I knew exactly what to do.*

I could try to explain about allowing the unconscious part of my mind wrestle with the problem—which I believe is what happened. Instead, I say it this way: I decided not to give the problem any conscious thought or energy. I also set a deadline for my unconscious mind.

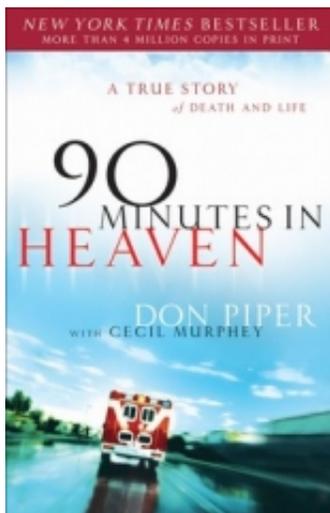
I've been doing this for at least twenty years. Recently I realized it might help others in their struggle with putting off something that has to be done—when they aren't ready.

I've become ready through planned procrastination. For me, the

and transparent in your writing? Read *Unleash the Writer Within*. It's not the typical book for writers.



Need a Father's Day gift? *Knowing God, Knowing Myself* is a good choice.



Cec is now working with Don Piper's wife, Eva, on a book for Thomas Nelson titled *A Walk in the Dark*.

technique has never failed.

Plan your procrastination.

Personal News

I've been home for most of May and I'll be home most of June. I've been able to catch up on writing assignments. I've completed the full draft of the book Eva Piper and I contracted for with Thomas Nelson. Our working title is *A Walk in the Dark*. (She's Don Piper's wife, and she tells her side of living with the [90-Minutes-in-Heaven](#) man.)

I'll speak to a Stephen Ministry group in Smyrna, GA on June 11, on how to say good-bye to a loved one.

June 20-23, I'll participate in the [SpeakUp Conference](#) in Grand Rapids, MI.

In July, I'll attend the ICRS (International Christian Retail Show) in Orlando. I'll go early and conduct an Unleash the Writer Within workshop in West Palm Beach July 6-7.

This year Twila Belk and I will do two book signings together at ICRS. We'll sign [Because You Care](#) (Harvest House) and *Heavenly Company: Entertaining Angels Unaware* (Guideposts Books). I'll also sign my book, [Making Sense When Life Doesn't](#) (Summerside/Guideposts).

The Twila Zone—Words from My Assistant, Twila Belk

Five years this month. That's how long I've been the wind beneath Cec's wings. (Cec's version is that I'm the hot air beneath him, but mine is the correct version.)

In honor of my five years with Cec, I thought we should have a little fun. The first five people to [email me](#) with the correct answers to the following questions will receive a free copy of Cec's newest book, [Making Sense When Life Doesn't: The Secrets of Thriving in Tough Times](#).

- 1) Cec has collaborated with many well known people on book projects. Can you name three?
- 2) Before becoming a professional writer, what did Cec do?
- 3) Will Cec ever slow down?

I'll include answers in next month's newsletter (if I still have a job).

Did you know that all the royalties from Cec's books go into a nonprofit



Twila's giving away five books in honor of five years working with Cec. Read the Twila Zone to see how to win one.

account to help other writers and ministries? You can help others by reading Cec's books and spreading the word.

Cec has a new [YouTube channel](#), thanks to my assistant, Gail Smith. His videos and interviews are scattered in various places, and now Gail is gathering them and putting them in one spot. If you subscribe, you'll get notice of any new videos added.

If you're a Facebook user, you might like to know that Gail has set up and facilitates several Cec-related pages: (1) [Cec and Me, with Cecil Murphey and Twila Belk](#), (2) [Because You Care: Spiritual Encouragement for Caregivers](#), (3) [When Someone You Love No Longer Remembers](#), (4) [When Someone You Love Has Cancer](#), (5) [Christmas Miracles](#), and (6) [Men Shattering the Silence](#).

Links of Interest:

[Cec's blog for writers](#)

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

[Follow Cec on Twitter](#)

[Twila's email](#)

[Twila's website](#)

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