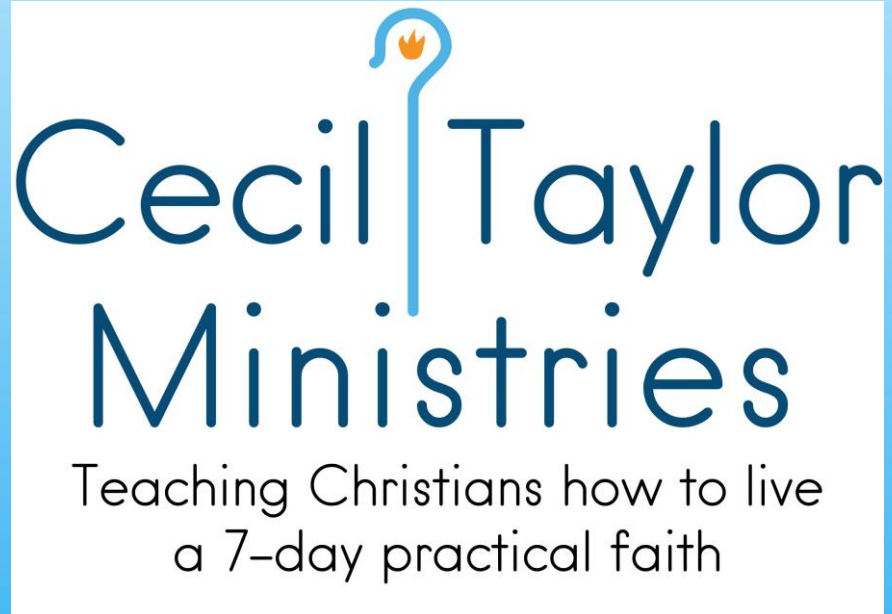


# Impactful Speaking

What Cecil Taylor offers to  
your church or small group



**CecilTaylorMinistries.com**  
**UnisonParenting.com**



# Executive Summary

- Cecil Taylor is an award-winning author, podcaster, broadcaster, and veteran adult Sunday School teacher.
- Cecil is also known for his contributions to *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, *Guideposts*, Inspiration.org, and other books and websites.
- He founded Cecil Taylor Ministries in 2017 to teach Christians how to live a seven-day practical faith.
- This brochure introduces Cecil's signature talks and retreat/workshop topics. He can also prepare custom material for a church or small group.

# About Cecil Taylor

## Teaching Christians to Live a Seven-Day Practical Faith



### Speaking credentials

- Multiple award-winning author; contributor to **Chicken Soup for the Soul**, **Guideposts**, and Inspiration.org.
- 30+ years as a teacher of adult Sunday School classes and small groups
- 15 years teaching parents of teens
- Led men's, young adult, and youth retreats
- Podcast host; frequent podcast guest.
- Video content for classes; video devotionals
- Speaking in professional business settings
- A side career of radio and TV sportscasting on national networks and local stations.

### Endorsements of Cecil's Speaking

**"Cecil has taught many classes in my church over the years, and I have always admired his wisdom and his way of conveying the gospel. "**

*- Nancy Kurkowski, author of "The Journal: An Unexpected Encounter with Jesus"*

**"I would highly recommend any of Cecil's teachings for someone or some group looking to seek God's direction in a way that is relatable."**

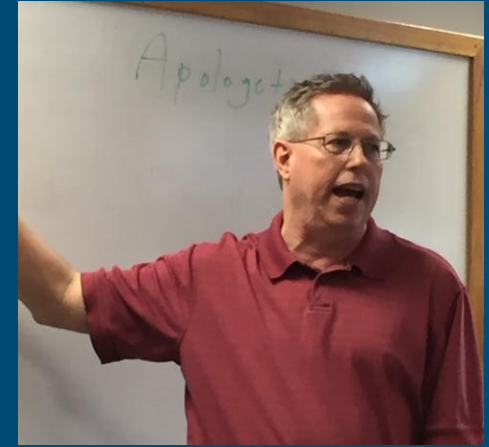
*- Kris Roberson, small group leader*

**"Cecil's energy and enthusiasm are infectious, creating an engaging learning environment and fostering genuine fellowship."**

*- Dr. Scott Engle, Sr. Teaching Pastor, St. Andrew Methodist Church, Plano, Texas*

**"Your presentation pointed out a good way to frame our decision-making in our everyday lives. We have a new vocabulary to express ourselves now."**

*- Sharon Hosack, women's group coordinator*



### Cecil Taylor Ministries' perspective

- Cross-denominational
  - Focused on our common problem of putting faith into practice each week
  - Focused on tenets all Christians agree with
- Informed by the Father's balance of grace and sovereignty, Jesus's salvation and teachings, and the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance
- Cecil's background is Arminian / Wesleyan, but his teaching has been welcomed by Baptists, Presbyterians, and others.

# Inventory of Speaking Content

## Intriguing topics for your church or small group

Signature Talk (Click to its page in this document)

Derived from:

Book Description

### Proactive and Reactive Parenting

*Unison Parenting: The Comprehensive Guide to Navigating Christian Parenthood with One Voice*

- 2025 Independent Press Awards – First place in Parenting/Family
- 2025 Living Water award – First place in Christian Nonfiction

Learn how to stay on the same page throughout the trials of parenting, provide children with a solid faith foundation, and balance loving nature with firm boundaries to create a warm, stable environment where the child and parent can eventually collaborate to bring the child to full, responsible adulthood.

### Uncertainty is the Soil in which Faith Grows

*From Comfort Zone to Trust Zone: How Jesus Urges Us to Take Leaps of Faith for His Kingdom*

- International Book Awards 2024 Finalist – Religion: Christian Inspiration
- The BookFest Spring 2024 – Second place in Religion/Christianity
- 2024 Oasis award – Second place in Nonfiction
- 2024 Living Water award – Third place in Christian Nonfiction

Christ is always calling us to deeper levels of faith and commitment. Cecil walks through a dozen scenarios where Jesus invites people to take risks for his sake, describing the comfort zones people should leave and the trust zones they should enter. Then he breaks down what each scenario means to us today and how Jesus is urging each of us to go deeper in our faith as we serve him.

# Inventory of Speaking Content

| Signature Talk (Click to its page in this document)              | Derived from:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Book Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>Live the Life that Is Given</u></a>               | <i>The Next Thing: A Christian Model for Dealing with Crisis in Personal Life</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2024 Christian Indie Award – Third place, Christian Living</b></li><li>• <b>2023 Living Water Award – Second place, Christian Nonfiction</b></li></ul> | Starting with the worst day of his life, Cecil Taylor takes readers on a journey through various crises to introduce the concept of "The Next Thing" and a four-part model for addressing each crisis. He offers practical tips, along with the scriptural underpinning, for simplifying, trusting, resting, and grieving in response to crisis.                                      |
| <a href="#"><u>Transformed by God's Love and Forgiveness</u></a> | <i>Live Like You're Loved: Living in the Freedom and Immediacy of God's Love</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2023 Oasis Award – First place, Christian Nonfiction</b></li></ul>                                                                                      | Despite Christianity's message about who we are and what has been done for us, guilt, shame, and self-loathing can weigh us down. This book emphasizes four Biblical truths: You are loved, forgiven, sent, and eternal. Cecil Taylor walks through each truth's scriptural basis then illustrates a life lived in each truth, transforming us as we trust in God's intention for us. |
| <a href="#"><u>Caring for the Human Forest</u></a>               | The Legacy Tree: A Christian Model for a Life of Significance (Video series)                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The Legacy Tree uses a tree metaphor to teach us how we can build significant lives. A tree is significant; it stands tall, spreads wide, and lasts for generations. Trees also take care of each other in amazing ways that are revealed during the lessons.                                                                                                                         |



# Unison Parenting

The Comprehensive Guide to Navigating  
Christian Parenthood with One Voice

Cecil Taylor

*"Cecil draws on a wealth of research, anecdotal observation, and personal experience to give practical tools for parents to thrive in raising their children to be well-adjusted, loved, and independent."*

– David Lessner, Sr. Pastor,  
Creekwood United Methodist,  
Allen, TX

## Signature Talk:

### "Proactive and Reactive Parenting"

Based on the award-winning book,  
*Unison Parenting*

Cecil draws from the first two chapters of *Unison Parenting* to lay a foundation for parents.

- Proactive Parenting is planning a structured policy for how you are going to parent, then implementing it. The parents agree on core values, a framework for behavior, and policies which implement, monitor, and reward or assign consequences for child behaviors. This is steady-state parenting.
- Reactive Parenting addresses when life throws a curve. Cecil shares a model for how parents can remain unified when dealing with the unexpected and the confusing.

**Parents should come away with the basics for setting a family framework and some key introductory points for staying in unison.**



**WINNER**  
INDEPENDENT PRESS AWARD

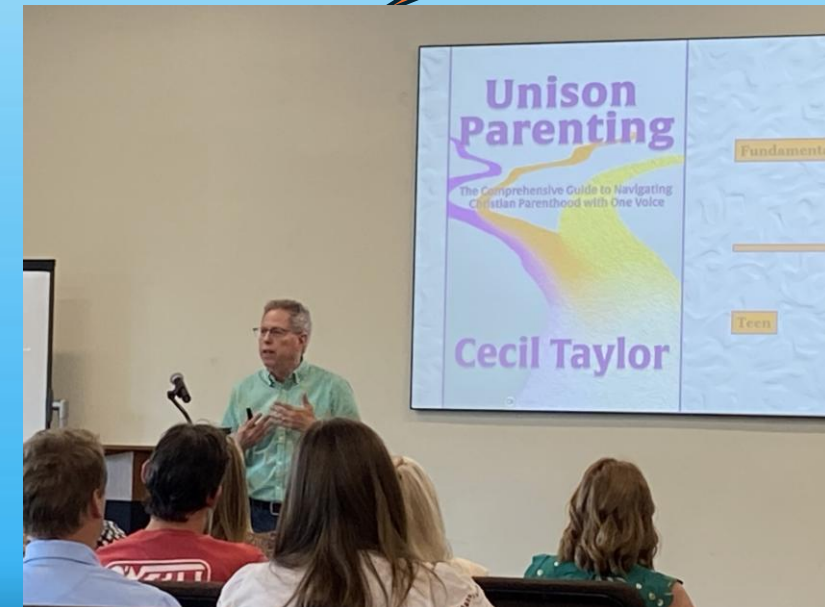
www.independentPressAward.com  
2025 #GabbyBookAwards

Reviewers say:

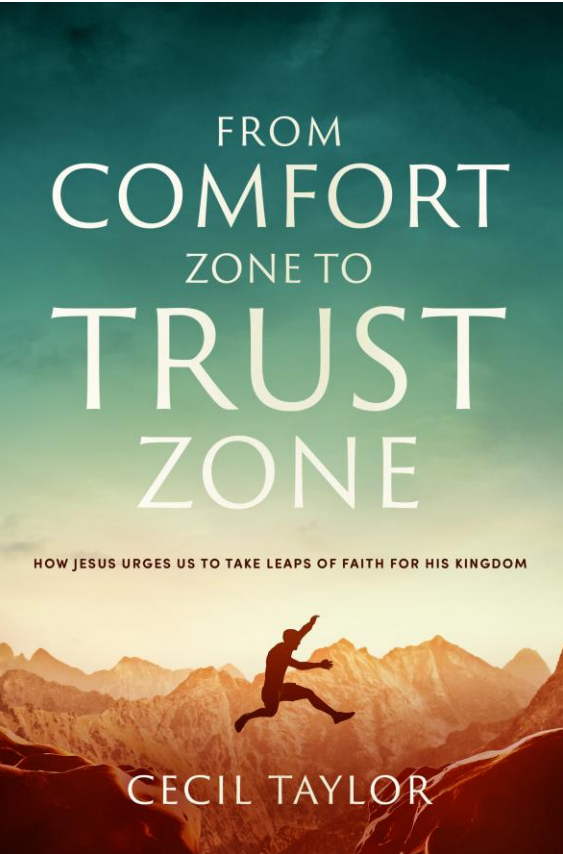
"Easy to connect with and apply"

"A blueprint for raising children who grow into responsible, faith-filled adults."

"I wish I had this book sooner!"



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***“Cecil’s ability to connect biblical truths to everyday life resonated with our people, leaving us inspired and challenged to live out our faith more intentionally.”***

**– Rev. Dr. Patrick Jackson  
Oxford United Methodist  
San Antonio, TX**



# Signature Talk: “Uncertainty is the Soil in which Faith Grows”

Based on the award-winning book,  
*From Comfort Zone to Trust Zone*



Reviewers say:

“Engaging  
and thought-  
provoking”

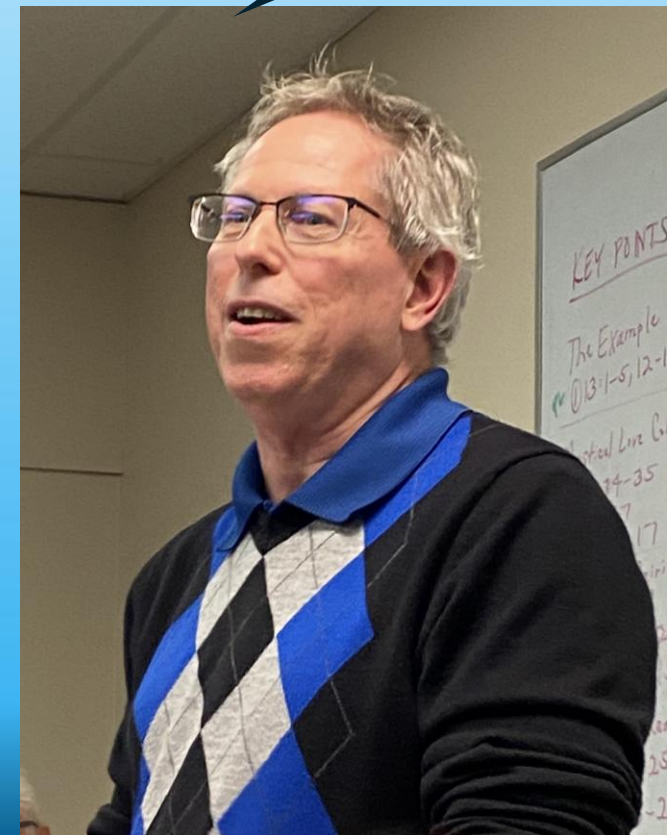
“Thoughtful  
and well-  
researched”

“An  
educational  
eye-opener”

Cecil dives into one of the book’s key chapters, called “Relinquishing Certainty, Embracing Uncertainty.” Perhaps our greatest issue in leaving comfort zones is relinquishing certainty. Jesus never promises the kind of certainty we crave, yet we’re always struggling to attain certainty in this life.

As Hebrews 11:1 states, “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” Cecil builds the case that uncertainty is indeed the soil in which faith grows; therefore, to grow our faith, we must embrace and even seek out uncertainty.

**Participants will take away a pattern for being open to uncertainty and risk for Christ.**



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# The Next Thing

A Christian Model for Dealing with  
Crisis in Personal Life



Cecil Taylor

*"Your 'Live the Life that is Given' presentation and testimony were perfect examples of scripture. Your message was a powerful challenge to us all."*  
- Ted Hyde, men's group coordinator

## Signature Talk: "Live the Life that Is Given"

Based on the award-winning book,  
*The Next Thing*

"Claire had never lived a normal life." With these words, Cecil begins telling the story of a 13-year-old Cystic Fibrosis victim. After her passing, her mother found this in the girl's diary: "I will live the life that is given."

Cecil expands on this touching story from *The Next Thing* to show that each of us, in our poverty or in our prosperity of wealth, health, time, or options, are called to live the life that is given.

**Participants will be inspired by God's provision in all circumstances and will feel more equipped to address the circumstances in which they find themselves.**

Reviewers say:

"Very moving"

"Biblical truth and practical steps to help you move forward"

"Came into my life at the perfect moment"

5. Live the life that is given.

**Philippians 4: 11-13**

I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.



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Live Like You're **LOVED**

Fully accepting that you are:



Loved  
Forgiven  
Sent  
Eternal

**Cecil Taylor**

*Author of "The Next Thing"*

***"You provide guidance  
and encouragement."  
– Bobbie Flower, class  
participant***

# Signature Talk: "Transformed by God's Love and Forgiveness"

Based on the award-winning book,  
*Live Like You're Loved*

Like the book, this signature talk on God's love and forgiveness fosters more than theological understanding; it encourages and teaches transformation.

Cecil establishes the scriptural truths that God loves and forgives each of us, then shows how to transfer that head knowledge into heart knowledge that makes a difference in the way we live.

**Participants will learn steps to transform their lives and be able to identify how to know the transformation is taking effect.**

Reviewers say:

"Powerful  
imagery"

"Touched my  
heart in  
unexpected  
ways"

"Life-  
changing!"

## Conditions We Experience as Results of Our Transformation

1. A more joyful spirit.

### **Zephaniah 3: 17**

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing



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## The Legacy Tree:

A Christian Model for a Life of Significance

*"When I listen to you speak, I sense the fragrance of Christ."*

– Lisle Barker, "Caring for the Human Forest" retreat participant

*"The Legacy Tree is a wonderful study in reminding us who we are as Christians and why we do what we do in His name."*

– Joe R., small group leader

# Signature Talk: "Caring for the Human Forest"

Based on *The Legacy Tree*

Did you know that trees take care of each other? Using an underground mycorrhizal network, trees can shuttle nutrients and even "messages" to each other. The legacy trees are the most mature trees and tend to the others. The entire forest benefits when trees care for each other.

In this talk, Cecil discusses how to emulate trees in caring for the human forest.

**Participants will take away concepts of kindness and vulnerability that enhance human forest relationships.**

Reviewers say:

"Highly recommend!"

"Very thought-provoking"

"A wonderful experience!"



# Retreat and Workshop Topics



## Lord of All

We say that Jesus is Lord of All, but have we made him Lord over every aspect of our lives? Cecil teaches how to insert Jesus's leadership into various components of our lives.

You can request a customized retreat topic from Cecil Taylor Ministries.

**Also, any Signature Talk can be expanded into retreat or workshop format.**

## Life Terrains

Life is full of mountains, valleys, and the everyday life in the plains. Cecil shares how to approach these terrains as faithful Christians, living in plenty, in want, and in the mundane.



# Contact Information



**<https://www.CecilTaylorMinistries.com>**

***More info for churches and small group leaders:***

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**214-228-3183**

