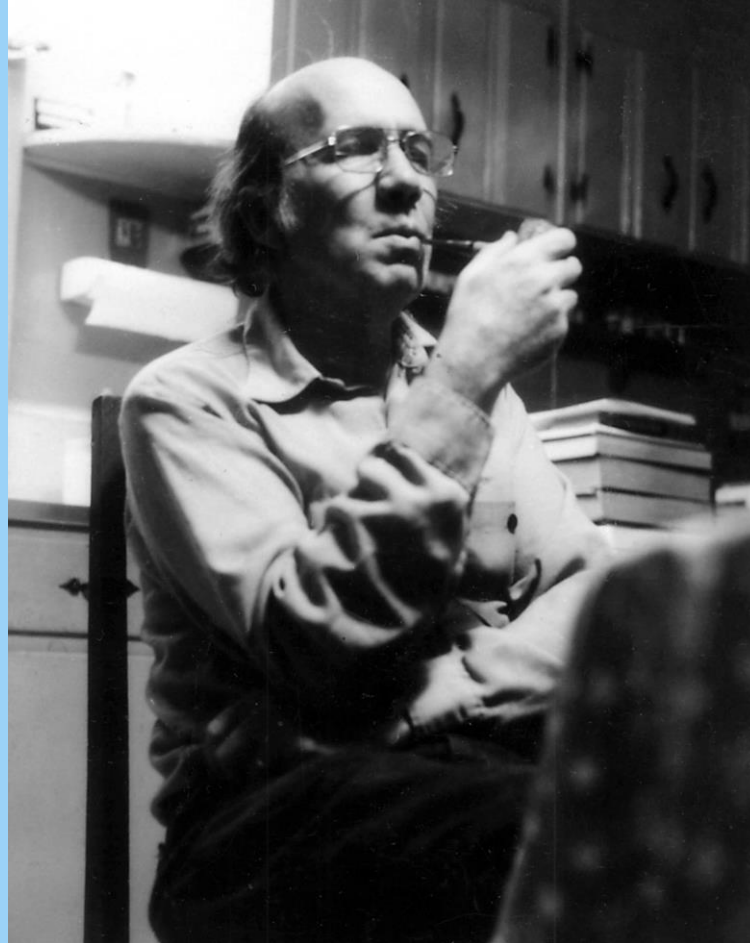


Will Campbell
(1924- 2013)



Who was Will Campbell?

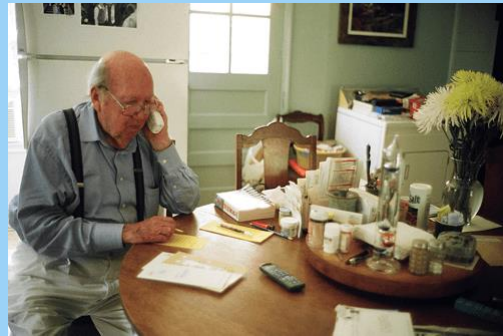
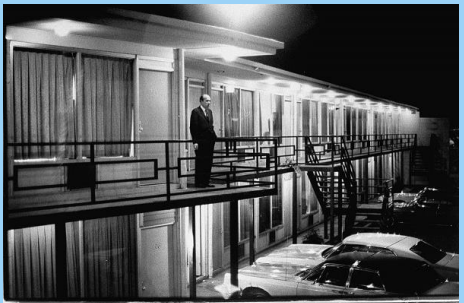
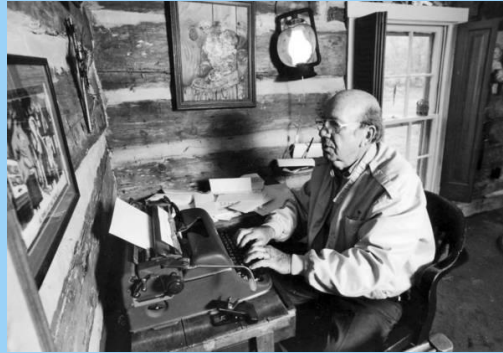
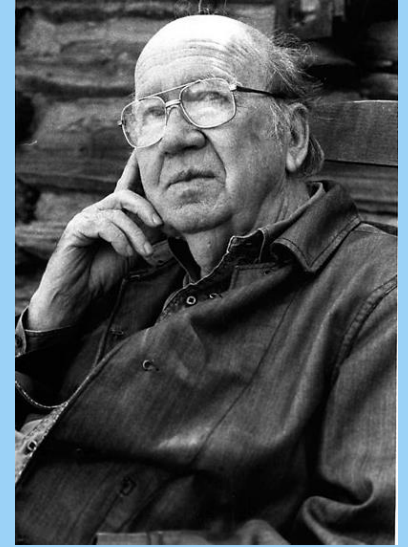
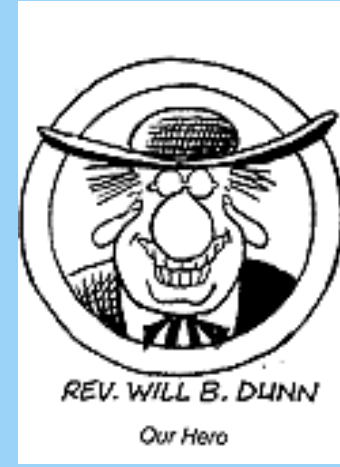
Preacher Will

Brother Will

Reverend

Prophet

Friend



Preacher

Civil Rights Activist (Little Rock, Atlanta, Nashville, Birmingham, Memphis)

Committee of Southern Churchman, Chair.

Journalist – *Katalagete*

Southern Coalition on Jails & Prisons, Founder

Anti-institutionalist

Counselor to Nashville Musicians

Author – Novels & Essays

Provocateur

Brother

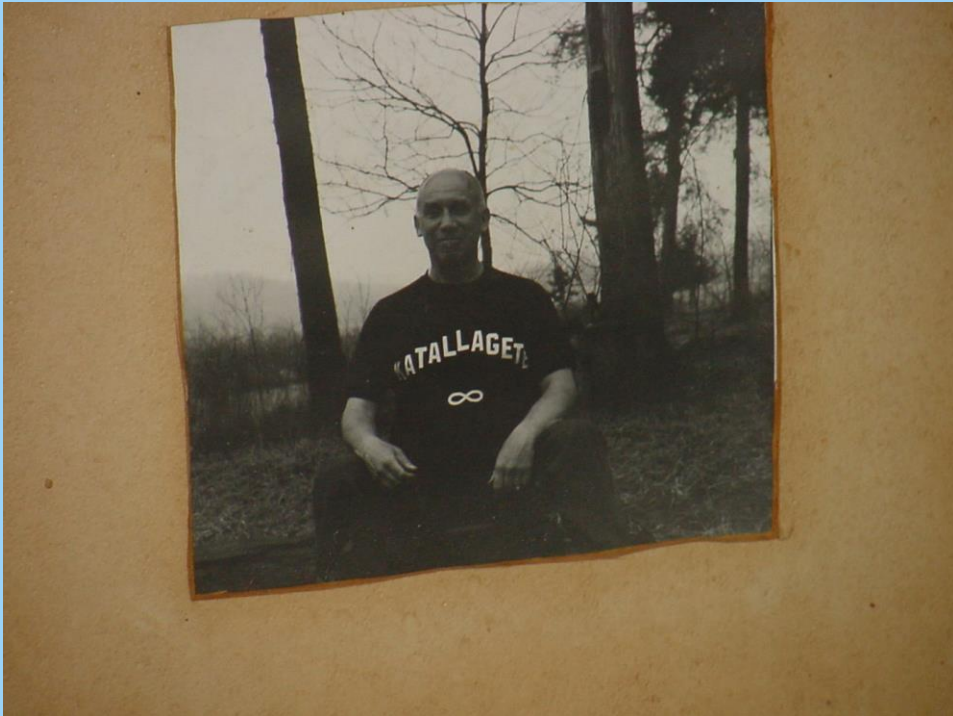
Remembrances of a while ago . . .



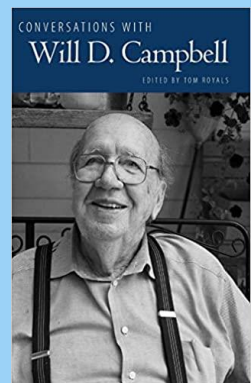
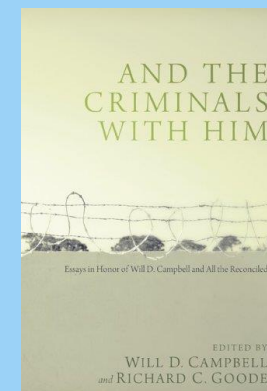
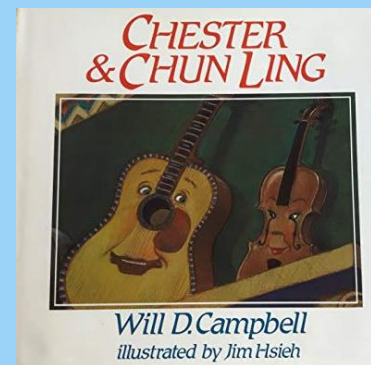
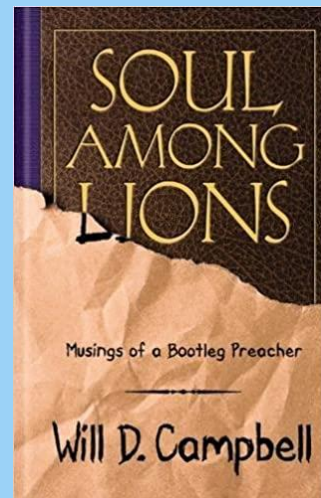
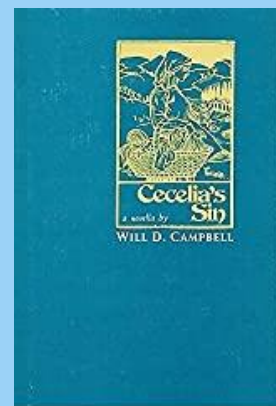
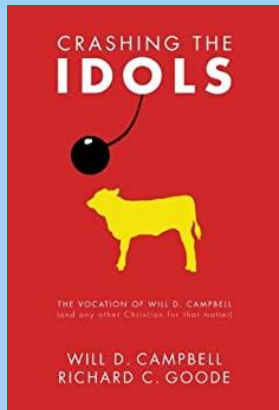
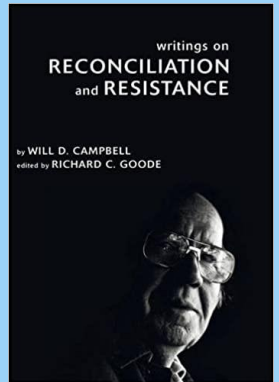
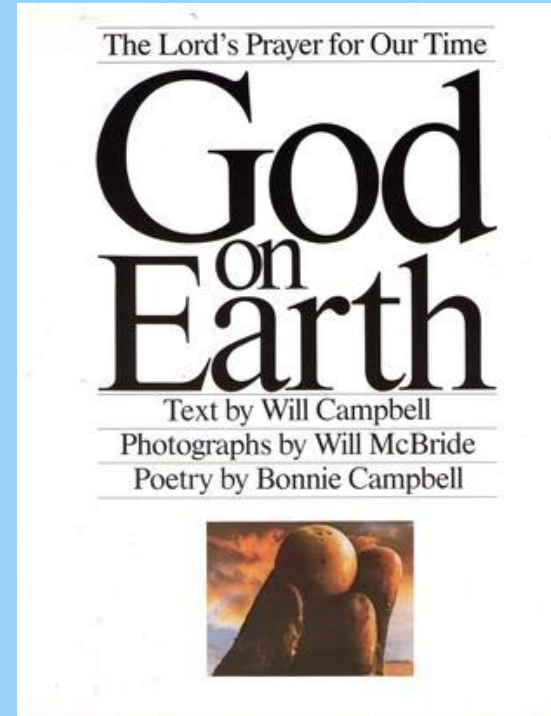
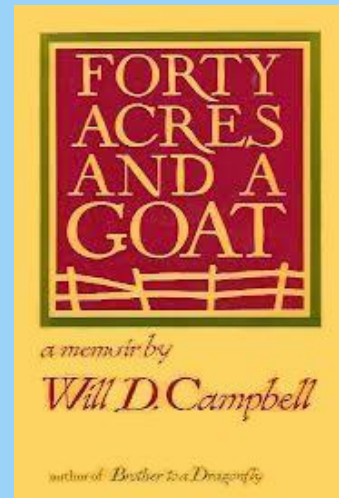
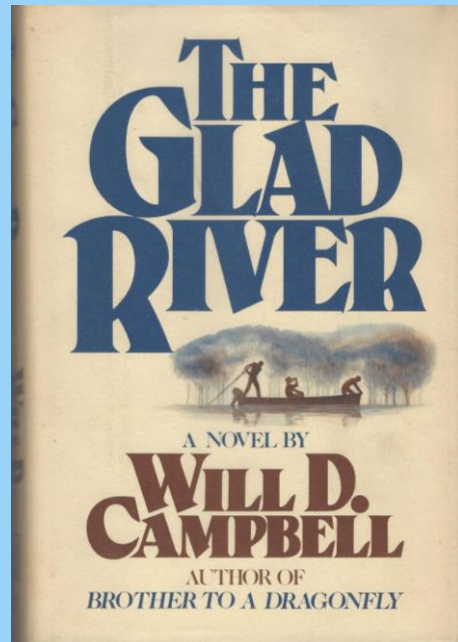
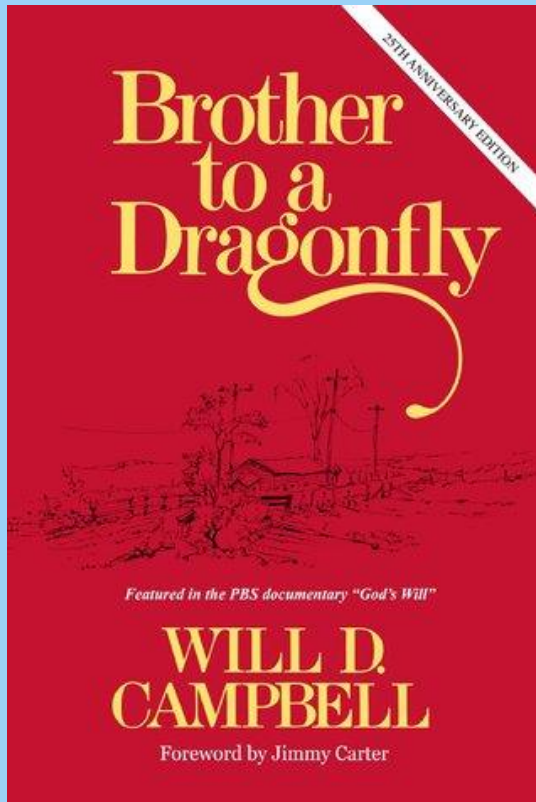
Remembrances of a while ago . . .

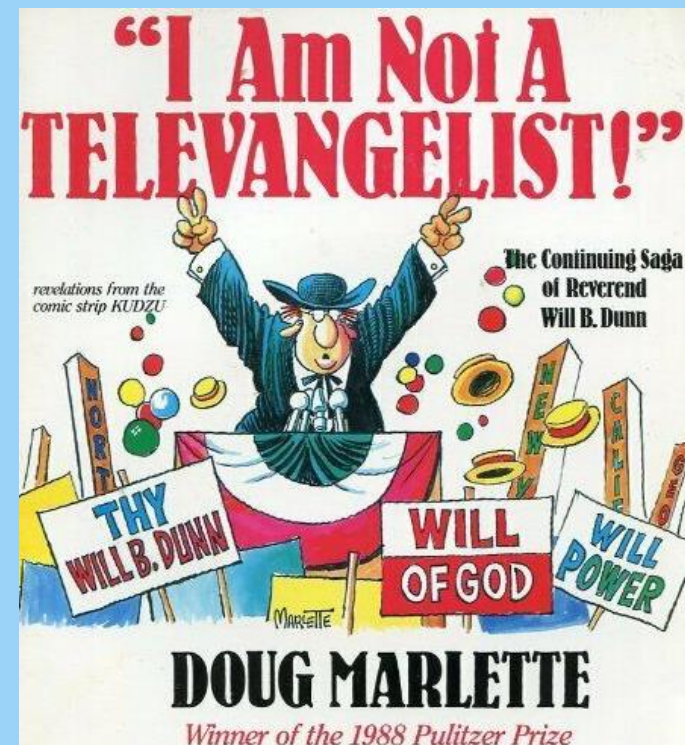
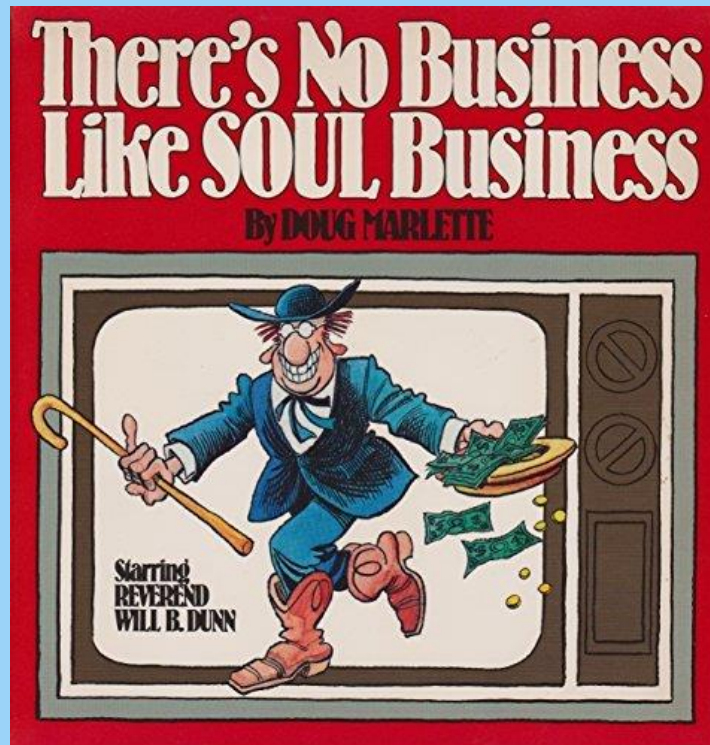
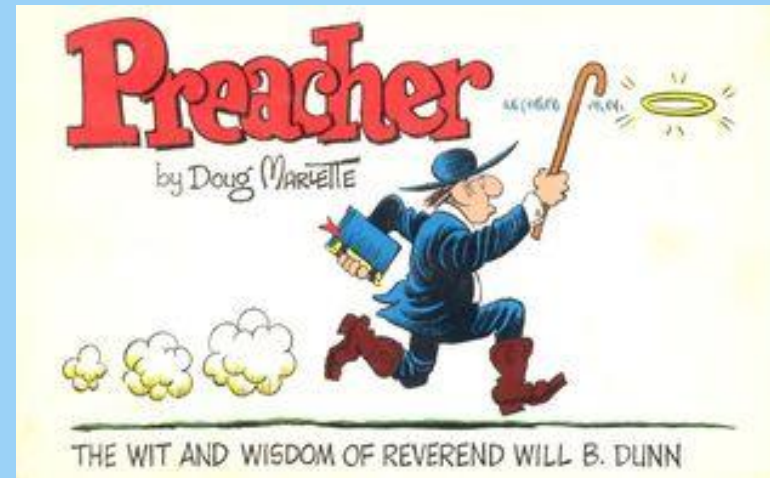


Remembrances of a while ago . . .



Where to start??





I. Remember “The Neighborhood”

Will Campbell’s father’s prayer at meal times:

“O Lord, look down on us with mercy, Pardon and forgive us our sins, Make us thankful for these and all other blessings, We ask for Christ's sake. Amen.” “Those words made a deep impression on me and I began early to take them to heart. As the words took flesh it was in relationship to other human beings. We lived in one of the most rural and presumably most racist counties in the nation. How then did I grow up to give my entire adult life to the struggle for racial equality and reconciliation? I learned lessons, lessons centered around my father's table and hearth. Not mandated prayers in Caesar's schoolroom.”

II. Radical Grace

*"We're all bastards,
but God loves us anyway."*

III. Be Reconciled!!

“What I wear is pants.

What I do is live.

How I pray is breathe...

Up here in the woods is seen the Word.

That is to say, the wind comes through
the trees and you breathe it.”

-- *Thomas Merton*

SUGGESTIONS FOR USE

This coming week use the following ways of praying which have been inspired by Will Campbell:

- Pray by considering your enemies. Choose one enemy in particular and imagine that you and your enemy are seated before the throne of God's grace. Now recall Campbell's summary definition of the gospel: *"We're all bastards, but God loves us anyway."* Let whatever emanates from your soul come forth □ as an expression of despair, as release from the fatigue of enmity, as a cry for consolation, as an expression of rage. Whatever comes, let it come. And know that you are being held, as your enemy is, in the hollow of God's gracious hand.
- **Pray by reciting The Lord's Prayer, all the while pondering how this prayer means "God has come on earth."**
- Despite the tragic circumstances that continue to bedevil God's children -- inadequate education, continuous wars (and the machinations that support their continuance), lack of potable water for one-fourth of the world's population, ignorance that stands for too much public policy in too many nations, abiding bigotry toward those who are different -- offer a prayer of anticipation and hope today, signing off your prayer, as Will Campbell does all of his personal correspondence: *"With Hope!"*

Film/Video/Internet Resources

USA Today/The Tennessean:

“Nashville civil rights minister Will Campbell dies”

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2013/06/04/obit-civil-rights-will-campbell/2390415/>

“God’s Will”

<https://vimeo.com/55126898>

Will Campbell: Racism and The Church

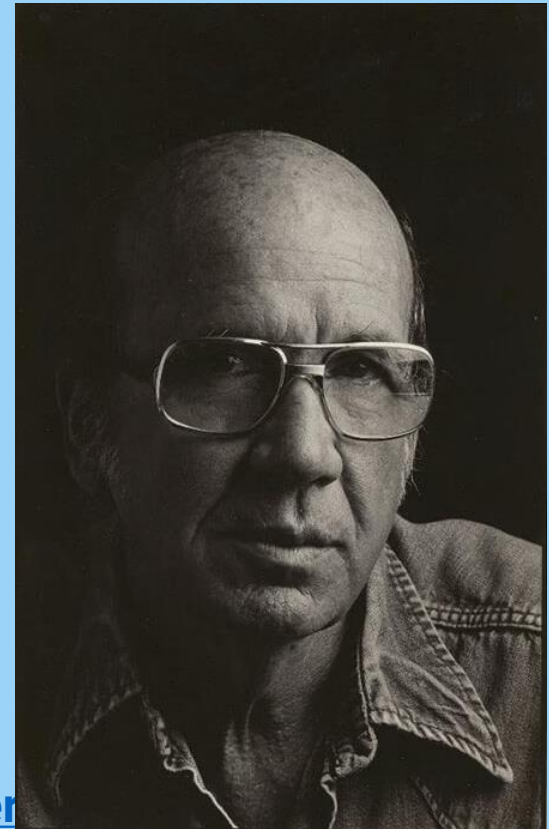
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDzadM55Wt8&t=78s>

Reverend Will D. Campbell:

Southern Racial Reconciler

By John Egerton (*Southern Spaces Magazine*)

<https://southernspaces.org/2013/reverend-will-d-campbell-southern-racial-reconciler>



TIME's YOURS

Q & A

Discussion

Musings

