

Reading for Hearken

LLC Communications Department Best Practices

Be Aware of Background Noise.

Put phone on a soft surface to eliminate vibration noise.

Pretest your voice volume and adjust mic.

Put your phone on airplane mode!

Use a clicker or sharp noise if you make a mistake. Allow seconds of silence for editing before and after recording.

Before reading selected text, say Title and written by_____ and read by_____.

Finally, prepare a sample recording and send to Ruth.

We will review it for clarity, pronunciation, pace.

Content and Audience–WHO is listening?

- **Read for purposeful meaning–not drama**
- General listening? –moderate pacing
- Youth? –moderate pacing, flexible pausing
- Early Childhood? –slower pacing, emphasis on key words, long pauses taking in illustrations, for following text boxes

Prepare your text

- Print out a hard copy of the reading (no paper shuffling during your reading)
or
- Create Word Doc

Then, mark your text! Underline important words, circle words that need precise pronunciation, highlight for emphasis. Anything to prepare!

Pronounce Correctly

Prepare and Practice:

Unfamiliar or archaic English words, Bible names and places

All Finnish words

All Swedish words

All Spanish, Latin, German, French and any

Prepare your text by writing in the correct pronunciation phonetically. Practice. Perfection is not necessary, but preparation shows and is appreciated. Preparation supports fluency and meaning.

Read for Meaning

Contemplate the **entire meaning of each sentence** and begin with that end in mind.

This means you must **read out loud to yourself FIRST, before recording.**

- Generally, if you read the passage multiple times the meaning will become clear.
- If you are not sure of the meaning, check with the Communications Department.

If you know where the sentence is leading, then your voice carries the natural inflection, (e.g., questions rise in pitch).

Pace, Pause, Enunciate

For LLC recordings, read slower than you might normally read - breathe, let message sink in! Consider:

- Slower reading to those with hearing challenges or to someone who speaks English as a second language or just for comprehension
- Pauses where natural: for punctuation, before and after information, between paragraphs, when a page or image changes
- Enunciate means pronounce succinctly, carefully articulating each letter sound - think about final consonant sounds

Early Childhood Listeners

Kids listen while they follow images and words on the screen.

NO RUSHING,

Consistent volume—create yelling or whisper with sound intensity and varied pacing

ENUNCIATE,

PAUSE FOR EFFECT,

PAUSE FOR PICTURES

PAUSE FOR NEW PAGES

Special Situations - Quizzes

For quizzes and answer keys:

First, say” For this quiz, you may want a pencil and paper to record your answers. Pause.

Read quiz questions and answer choices, (if Multiple Choice)

Add pausing for thought and selection of answers.

For answer key, read question and correct selection (e.g., 1. What does “rock” refer to in this psalm?

d. rock of my salvation)

Special Situations - Reading Citations

For citations:

Bible

Scholarly articles, books

For Bible citations that follow in parentheses, read only if the citation is crucial to understanding the meaning or position statement of the author. Most will be skipped entirely.

For scholarly articles, skip all parenthetical citations unless deemed absolutely necessary.

Special Situations - Announcements

Read announcements as they are written

Unless the announcement lacks cohesion. In the case of incoherence: add any transitional words, phrases or missing details.

Reader's judgement is important. Read aloud before recording and pencil in necessary words.

If it is an ad that is difficult to read, it is okay to say, "See the LLC Website or the Voice of Zion for more information."

Reading poetry

Always note the poetic form, but **read for meaning.**

Meaning is more important than rhyme and more important than line.

Break rhyme to push meaning forward, but be cognizant of line endings

No Dramatics, but do taste each word.

No rushing unless poem calls for pacing change (e.g., e.e.cummings)

Always be sure you understand the meaning of the poem before you read aloud. Ask if you are unsure, mark-up the text, prepare before reading.

From Single But Not Alone

FAITH AND HOPE

Luther says faith and hope are related to one another. This thought stems from the words in the Epistle of Peter, "Your faith is also hope in God."

X Luther explains the meaning of these words, "We have been able to begin by the power of faith/with the assistance of hope we will be able to remain strong/and through revelation we will own Him entirely. So long as we live, when we believe, we teach the word and spread the knowledge of Christ unto others;/but while we teach, we shall suffer persecution;/while we suffer we shall rise bravely by the power of hope, since Scripture encourages us with promises full of sweetness and comfort, which faith has taught us;/In this manner, faith is born and grows in us so that "through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope" (Rom. 15).

Luther relates of his own experience of faith and hope, "While under the rule of the Pope, I was a deeply depressed monk and always greatly oppressed. Finally, I was able to receive comfort from a brother by these lone words, 'He Himself (Christ) has offered hope. Our salvation is faith in God; why would we not therefore want to trust in God, who wishes and tells us to hope?' By these words he made me alive again."

Read for thought

mark /
where thought
ends.

A shepherd played a quiet song /

Another shepherd hummed along. /

A fire burned. ~~They~~ saw its light

Red on the backs of sheep by night. /

} 1 thought

Continues
/ Bright stars above lit up the sky
For weary people passing by,
For shepherds leading sheep to rest
And every traveler on their quest. /

Break rhyme
by emphasizing
meaning

Works!
"lit up the sky"
"weary"
(hope)

/ They talked with others on the way; /
Dogs romped and barked, the donkeys brayed /
The moms kept babies close to them ← soft!
Along the road to Bethlehem. /