

# I Can't Hear You

As churches, when we talk about Mark 16:15 and spreading the Gospel, we often think of foreign countries. Perhaps your church is currently supporting a missionary, or you're putting together a short-term mission trip for your congregation. These are great, we're all on board for doing that. We'd also like you to pause for a minute and think about the community of people living in your neighborhood. You've probably done some outreach activities. Maybe you've invited neighbors to a social, had a few picnics, posted an article in the local newspaper, put together a food drive, and much more. Again, great. But what about the people in your community that are Deaf or Hard of Hearing? Have you thought about them? For many churches, these are "invisible" people.



- **We don't really have anyone that's Deaf living nearby.** Well, are you sure about that? Just going by statistics, if you have a town of something like 20,000 people, about 100 are Deaf or severely Hard of Hearing.
- **There just isn't a lot of attendees that are Hard of Hearing.** Why would they come to your church if they can't hear what you're saying? Would you visit a place where you can't understand anyone? In our imaginary town of 20,000 people, statistics say that 3,000 of them are Hard of Hearing. That's a lot of folks !!!

For the Hard of Hearing, it used to be expensive to put assisted hearing devices into a church, plus someone had to maintain everything, fix it when they broke, and they really just didn't work well in the first place. If you were Hard of Hearing, you had to sit in the designated pew, kind of like an outcast to the rest of the congregation. Not a very welcoming deal. And for the Deaf, hiring a sign language interpreter is way beyond most budgets, and getting a team of sign language volunteers..., well at best that's really difficult.



That's where we decided to put together a team to make a difference. We're hoping you'll join us. At Church Captioning we've created software that automatically captions your services and small group discussions (plus quite a bit more).

- This is software, based in the cloud, that you can use anytime and as often as you like.
- It's affordable, around a dollar per day for an unlimited use system.
- There is no scheduling an interpreter, nor paying a per usage fee, nor a per minute fee.
- We offer both monthly subscription plans, and a one-time purchase option that gives you a permanent, unlimited use captioning system for life.
- It's very common for someone to make a one-time contribution to the church to purchase a permanent system.
- Because it's based in the cloud, there's no software for your team to upgrade or maintain, we do all that for you.
- Guests can view the captioning directly on their own device (e.g., an iPhone, iPad, Android Phone, Kindle, etc.), or if you want you can display the captioning on a projector. By far, most churches do the former, and that's what guests prefer. This way they can sit anywhere in the auditorium (e.g., with their families and not in the designated "Hard of Hearing" section) plus they can chose their preferred font size and layout.

If you do join us, we think you'll be surprised at how many new people start showing up at your services. When word gets out that you have a captioning system, it opens up your doors to a whole new group of individuals in your community and makes your church a welcoming place for them to attend.

For more information on how to get a captioning system installed at your church, visit [www.churchcaptioning.com](http://www.churchcaptioning.com) or send a note to [info@churchcaptioning.com](mailto:info@churchcaptioning.com) or give us a call at **952-381-1234**.

