

Radio recording tips

1. A radio audience is always **one person** you are having a conversation with. Always refer to them in singular and NEVER plural (i.e. 'How are you?', 'What do you think?', 'You're listening to Faith FM', NOT 'Hi everyone', 'I hope you're all having a nice day', 'What do you guys think?').
2. Make sure the microphone is at a **natural** mouth height. Stick your chin up a little and your chest out a little, which will help your back relax. If you must, it is better to speak up to a microphone than down, as speaking down compresses your voice box.
3. Speak slightly **over** the top of the mic rather than directly into it. This will help reduce the popping sounds from words with T, K, P, D, G, and B sounds.
4. Keep your mouth about **3cm** away from the mic while you speak.
5. **Smile** while you speak! Not a huge cheesy grin but a small smile as if someone had just complimented you – you should feel it in the laugh lines around your eyes. A little smile will help your voice sound more open and natural.
6. **Stand** up while you record. Standing gives you better posture and makes your voice stronger (and often clearer). If you must sit, ensure you sit back and relax your shoulders, never hunch over the mic.
7. Use your **hands** and **arms** to help convey your meaning. Movement helps us think and is a natural part of communication. Radio is a personal conversation with a listener, so act as if you were talking to another person in the room. How would you stand and gesture, where would you look?
8. **Variety** is important. Vary your tone, speed up and slow down your speech, throw in some pauses, ask some questions and leave your listeners a little time to think.
9. **Practice**. While everyone knows how to speak, professional radio presenters practice their speaking every day.

The best physical posture for speaking:

Stand comfortably (or sit if you must) in a space that gives you the room to move your arms while you speak. Stick your chin up slightly and chest out slightly. Smile a little bit. You're ready to go!

Got a question? Feel free to contact Faith FM producer Bradley Martin - bradleymartin@adventist.org.au