



Hearing Differences

“Deaf people can do anything except hear.” – I. King Jordan

Tips for interacting with the Deaf or those with hearing impairments:

1. If you want to get someone's attention that is deaf or hard of hearing, gently tap them on the shoulder and let them see your face.
2. Look directly at the individual and use a normal voice.
3. Write or draw pictures if necessary to get your point across.
4. Ask someone who knows the person well to help you learn the best way to communicate.
5. Waving your hand directly in front of their face is considered rude so stand back and wave if you want their attention.
6. Remember that this person may use sign language to communicate, so their hands need to be free to communicate.

References

- “10 Things to Know About Being Deaf,” Hearing Like Me, hearinglikeme.com/deaf-awareness-month-10-things-to-know-about-being-deaf/
- “David G. Myers on Hearing Loss in Worship: An Invisible Disability.” Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/david-g-myers-on-hearing-loss-in-worship-an-invisible-disability/
- Deaf-Hearing Communication Center, dhcc.org/resources/communication-tips/
- Hearing Tips, With Ministries: withministries.org/adapting-the-sessions-to-the-needs-of-your-group/