

# TOPTIPS

## COPYRIGHT

TT09

**Copyright in church can be a confusing issue. Chris Williams is Sales Director for Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI). CCLI represents over 7,500 catalogues of music including over 275,000 hymns and worship songs. Here Chris answers some common Copyright questions:**

### **How can we reproduce/project protected song lyrics in our services?**

Song lyrics reproduced, stored and projected within church activities are covered under the normal terms of the Church Copyright Licence (CCL).

### **Is it OK to keep the whole of Mission Praise words on the lap top, and should that be included on an annual CCLI Copy Report?**

No. Not all songs included within Mission Praise are covered by the CCL. However the CCL provides the right to store any of the 175,000 authorised hymns and worship songs on a PC for later use.

Songs lyrics stored on your computer must be reported through the CopyReport system. Songs provided by a publisher on a DVD, CD etc. should not be reported until a reproduction or projection has been made.

### **Would using a secular CD track in a church service for meditation count as incidental music?**

The Performing Right Society (PRS) and Phonographic Performance Ltd choose not to charge for the playing of sound recordings or the live performance of music within an Act of Worship.

### **Do we require any licence for playing music outside of acts of worship?**

Yes. CCLI act as agent to the performing Right Society (PRS) for the PRS Church Licence. This licence covers the playing of sound recordings (CD's etc) for background music at activities such as youth groups, and coffee mornings. The PRS church licence is also required for any live concerts (paid or free entry) held on the church venue.

### **Would showing the words of a secular CD track on the screen in a church service, while the track is playing, for meditation, be OK?**

The CCL only covers the projection of hymns and worship songs from authorised catalogues (music publishers etc). As such it does not cover the projection of secular songs, poems etc. Direct Permission must be obtained from the copyright owner prior to use. No single agency licenses the reproduction of all secular music.

### **Is it OK to show insubstantial video clips in various venues and, if so, how short is insubstantial, e.g. in a service; at a meeting in a church hall; at a meeting in a private home; in a school?**

The concessions provided through Fair Dealing do not extend to the showing of film clips – no matter what the length of the clip. The Church Video Licence (CVL) provides a church or itinerant worker with the right to show thousands of clips/scenes or full motion pictures from hundreds of authorised film producers. Showing films outside of acts of worship will also require the cover of a PRS Church Licence.

### **As a visitor to a church...can I use my own equipment to store and project song lyrics under the cover of their licence. Also...am I able to keep these songs on my laptop after the service?**

The CCL provides the right to the licence holder to store, print or project any of the songs provided through the licence. You are covered whilst visiting a church that holds a valid CCL. You must use their licence number and they must report the song stored, printed or projected within their CopyReport. All songs must remain with the church if you, the itinerant worker, do not hold a CCL. If you are the licence holder and the church holds no CCL you must take all copies with you.

**Where should the 'proprietary data' be shown for each song projected? After and on every slide or at the end of the service on one extra slide?**

The Church shall ensure that every reproduced version of the words of any Hymn and/or Worship Song produced in exercise of any of the Rights shall contain the full and correct song title writer credit(s) and copyright notice (all of which information is contained in the Song Reference List) in substantially the following form:

"Light of the World" words and music by Tim Hughes  
2002 © Kingsway Thankyou Music  
Used By Permission. CCL No 001

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**Do I require a licence for photocopying from non-music publications for teaching in small groups?**

Yes. CCLI act as agent to the Copyright Licensing Agency(CLA) for the CLA Church Licence. This licence covers the photocopying of material from non-music publications such as books, magazines or bulletins.

**For more on CCLI visit <http://www.ccli.co.uk>**