

The Power of Prayer: Getting Personal

Speaker: Missy Carfield

Date: Sunday, February 1, 2026

Scripture: John 10:27; Isaiah 8:19; Jeremiah 10:21; Matthew 7:7

SUMMARY

Missy Carfield presses past checklist devotion into a personal, listening relationship with God—because Jesus’ sheep know His voice, and prayer includes asking, seeking, knocking, and waiting for the Shepherd to speak.

OVERVIEW

Moving the prayer series from promises and circles to intimacy, Missy insists real relationship is two-way. She contrasts consulting every voice but God’s (Isaiah 8) with shepherds who listen (Jeremiah 10), then lands on Jesus’ words: “My sheep listen to my voice.”

Stories of learning a child’s distinctive voice in a noisy van and of Spirit-led “blue cake” obedience illustrate how familiarity with God grows. Getting personal means giving prayer enough quiet for listening—not only speaking—and trusting Matthew 7’s ask-seek-knock invitation.

KEY POINTS

- Personal prayer is relationship, not a religious checklist
- Jesus’ sheep know and listen to His voice (John 10:27)
- Don’t inquire of every substitute voice while skipping the living God
- Familiarity with the Shepherd makes His voice recognizable in noise
- Leave unhurried space to listen after you speak
- Ask, seek, knock—persistence is part of intimacy (Matthew 7:7)
- Obedience to small prompts trains us for clearer personal guidance

MEMORABLE LINES

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

"You have to give yourself time to settle into a quiet space to listen."

"I could hear my son's voice—it was distinctive to me because I knew it."

TAKEAWAY

This week, after you pray, sit in silence for several minutes and ask, “Shepherd, what are You saying?” Write down what you sense and test it against Scripture.

SOURCE

- YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGG5qxjB_zA (captions)
- Website: <https://www.baypointchurch.com/media/r4223qg/the-power-of-prayer-getting-personal>