

Sunday Sermon Recap

September 27, 2026 | Pastor Harry Sexton | Laveen Baptist Church

1. Title

Prideful Communication

2. Speaker

Pastor Harry Sexton

3. Link to Sermon

https://www.youtube.com/live/K_-NrYZbVao?si=xjYl9ojMFiSoMgz8

4. Date of Sermon

September 27, 2026

5. Main Bible Verses

Proverbs 20:6; 21:24; 25:14; 27:1-2; 30:32

(Also referenced: Matthew 5:37; Matthew 15:8; James 4:6; Ephesians 4:29; 1 John 1:9)

6. Summary and Highlights

Pastor Harry continued the series in Proverbs by examining the problem of prideful communication—something every one of us struggles with to some degree. He opened with a humorous story of friends secretly adding gas to a man's car to inflate his reported mileage, illustrating how easily we inflate our own accomplishments or minimize our failures ("fish stories").

Three common forms of prideful communication:

- **Proclaiming our own loyalty** (Proverbs 20:6) – "Many a man proclaims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man?" Talk is cheap. Public claims of faithfulness or godliness are easy when they enhance our reputation, yet Jesus rebuked lip-service religion: "These people honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me" (Matthew 15:8). Genuine loyalty is covenantal love expressed in costly action.
- **Arrogant mocking** (Proverbs 21:24) – The proud person elevates personal judgment above God's authority, refuses correction, and makes teachability nearly impossible. Pride violates the two great commandments by putting self first.
- **Boasting about gifts that do not exist** (Proverbs 25:14) – Like desert clouds and wind that promise rain but deliver only dust (a vivid Arizona picture), empty promises of generosity or future help wound trust and damage hope. God always keeps His promises; we should too. Let our "yes" be yes and our "no" be no (Matthew 5:37).

What to do about it:

- **Proverbs 27:1-2** – Do not boast about tomorrow (you do not know what a day may bring). Let another praise you, and not your own mouth.
- **Proverbs 30:32** – If you have been foolish by exalting yourself or scheming, put your hand over your mouth.

Practical steps: 1) **Pause** – Stop speaking. 2) **Repent** – Turn from the heart attitude that produced the words. 3) **Replace** – Fill the gap with truthful, humble speech that builds others up and gives grace (Ephesians 4:29).

Pastor Harry closed by urging the church to become a place where pride-based communication no longer has a hold, so that every word spoken (even by those who overhear) points people to the Lord.

7. Key Takeaway

Prideful communication—self-promotion, empty promises, and resistance to correction—flows from a heart that elevates self above God and others. The remedy is immediate: stop, repent, and replace those words with humble, grace-giving speech. Let another praise you, and let your yes be yes.

If you have not received Jesus as your Savior, here is a short presentation of the Gospel:

- All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).
- The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23).
- God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).
- If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will

be saved (Romans 10:9).

A Prayer of Salvation

Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, that He lived a sinless life, died on the cross for my sins, and rose again on the third day. Today I turn from my sin and place my trust in Jesus Christ alone as my Savior and Lord. Please forgive my sins, give me a new heart, and help me follow You all the days of my life. Thank You for Your grace, Your mercy, and the gift of eternal life. I confess Jesus as my Lord and gladly receive Him by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

If you prayed this prayer, we would love to hear from you and walk with you. Please contact us:

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In Christ alone