

Curtis Hall Flight Time Sabbath School Seminar

February 21, 2026 via Zoom

The seminar focused on making Sabbath School more effective and engaging in a modern era where attendance is often declining. Key takeaways from his presentation, "**Flight Time Teaching**," include:

1. The Core Problem

- **The "Dying" Sabbath School:** Hall argues that in many churches, Sabbath School is "near death," often attended primarily by senior citizens because younger generations only go where they find value.
- **Theory vs. Reality:** While members often say Sabbath School is for "evangelism" or "spiritual growth," Hall contends it often becomes a repetitive "history lesson" where members recite what they already know to others who also know it.

2. The "Flight Time" Framework

Hall uses a plane analogy to describe the teacher's three primary jobs:

- **Takeoff:** Getting the class off the ground and engaged.
- **The Journey:** Guiding the class through the lesson without getting "hijacked" by negative individuals or off-topic discussions.
- **The Landing:** Ensuring the lesson concludes with a relevant and applicable point.

3. Practical Teaching Strategies

- **Leave the Quarterly in the Car:** Hall strongly advises teachers to study the lesson beforehand but to teach using **only the Bible** in class to encourage genuine study of the Word rather than just reading from a manual.
- **The "Visitor's Eye":** Every aspect of the program should be evaluated from the perspective of a visitor to ensure they would feel included and able to follow what is happening.
- **Three Pillars of Teaching:** Successful lessons require **Information** (biblical truth), **Inspiration** (encouragement), and **Interaction** (active participation through questions).
- **Asking Great Questions:** He emphasizes following the example of Jesus by asking questions that provoke thought and interaction rather than just lecturing.

4. Final Goal: Selling Jesus

Hall concludes that the ultimate goal of a teacher is to "sell Jesus". He stresses that lessons must be **Christ-centered**, **relevant** to modern life, and **biblical** so that students leave feeling they have gained something valuable for their relationship with God.