

**Salt & Light Theme Development**  
**2019 LEA National Administrators Conference**  
**February 17–19, 2019 Washington, D.C.**

Matthew 5:13–14 applies to Lutheran schools as well as Christian disciples:

“You are the world’s seasoning, to make it tolerable. If you lose your flavor, what will happen to the world? And you yourselves will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the world’s light—a city on a hill, glowing in the night for all to see” (TLB).

Lutheran schools need to continue educating new generations for their role in both of the Two Kingdoms. Doing that requires sound and bold education in Scripture, witness, apologetics, and citizenship. It also requires freedom and resources to accomplish the task.

Administrators in Lutheran schools must develop a vision for this task, keeping this scriptural injunction in mind: “It is God’s will that your good lives should silence those who foolishly condemn the Gospel without knowing what it can do for them, having never experienced its power. You are free from the law, but that doesn’t mean you are free to do wrong. Live as those who are free to do only God’s will at all times. Show respect for everyone. Love Christians everywhere. Fear God and honor the government” (1 Peter 2:15–17 TLB).

**Three Points for Lutheran School Salt & Light:**

- Lutheran schools and the congregation
- Lutheran schools and the community
- Lutheran schools and the government

Scriptural encouragement and instruction are the same for all three: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Rom. 12:2 *ESV*).

Note on Two Kingdoms: “We are all citizens of two kingdoms. One is the kingdom of this world. Into it we are born; in it we sustain our bodies and do our work. The other is the Christian Church, in which we have become members by faith. In it we do our spiritual tasks; in it we pray, serve the Church, and do mission-work. This is the purpose for which we have been placed on earth.” (Theodore Graebner in an essay on Christian citizenship, 1937.)