

Children's Sermon for Aug 18 (based on Luke 12:49-56)

Items needed: pair of tweezers 2 tissues; rubbing alcohol, lit candle (preferably from the altar)

Did you ever get a splinter? If so, you need a pair of tweezers (hold up tweezers) to get it out. But if you are using a pair of tweezers to take out a splinter, you usually put some rubbing alcohol on a tissue (do so,) and then rub it all over the tweezers beforehand (do so.). Why do you do that? To do what is called, "disinfecting." "Disinfecting" the tweezers means using alcohol, like this, to kill the germs that might be on the tweezers. You don't want germs to get into the cut the splinter made when it went into you. That might cause an infection. In the same way, it's a good idea to get another tissue (do so,) put some alcohol on it (do so,) and then rub your skin around where the splinter went into you (rub one of your fingers with a tissue.) This is called "disinfecting" your skin--killing the germs that might be on your skin that could cause an infection. Rubbing alcohol (hold up bottle) is good for killing the germs that can give you an infection, and hurt you even more than a splinter! When Jesus walked the earth, they didn't have bottles of rubbing alcohol, like this. So, they sometimes use fire to disinfect, to kill the germs that can cause an infection. (Hold tweezers over lit candle)---fire can kill germs, like rubbing alcohol can. In today's Bible reading, Jesus talks about bringing fire to earth. What Jesus means is He wants to "disinfect" the earth. He wants to clean the earth of all the "germ-y" things that get in the way of God's holy love, things like hate, and greed, and meanness. Jesus wants to clean us all of the things that get in the way of God's love.

By Rev. Dave Quinn