

### **News Story Summary**

In New Mexico, three people have died and another one was permanently blinded after drinking hand sanitizer containing methanol. The cases were reported to the New Mexico Poison control clinic over several weeks. Officials believe the individuals ingested the hand cleaner as a substitute for alcohol. Officials also say instances like these have occurred in the past and are likely connected with alcoholism. Similar stories are being reported in other states, including Arizona.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the term “3 dead, 1 blinded by drinking hand sanitizer”.)

### **Focus Attention**

To enhance the Focus Attention ideas, after completing the Introduce idea ask: *Have you ever had a food craving that just wouldn't go away?* Invite the group to discuss their cravings. State: *Some cravings are so intense they can cause people to make foolish decisions.* Convey the summary of the New Mexico residents who drank hand sanitizer to satisfy their alcohol cravings. Ask: *What do these instances say about the power of alcoholism?* Complete the step as written beginning with the Explain idea.

### **Summarize and Challenge**

To supplement the Summarize idea under Summarize and Challenge, review the story of the deaths and injuries in New Mexico related to ingesting hand sanitizer. Ask: *How does this story illustrate the principles we learned in today's lesson? How can we as individuals and as a church reach out to people who wrestle with addiction?* Complete the step as written.