A TALE OF 2 DUCK HUNTERS

Here is a story, alleged to be true, about two duck hunters from Michigan. One of them buys a new Lincoln Navigator for \$42,500, and he and his friend go duck hunting in upper Wisconsin.

It's mid-winter and, of course, all the lakes are frozen. These two guys go out on the ice with their guns, a dog and the new Navigator. They decide they want to make a natural looking open water area for the ducks to focus on, something for the decoys to float on.

Now, making a hole in the ice large enough to invite a passing duck is going to take a little more power than the average drill auger can produce. So, out of the back of the new Navigator comes a stick of dynamite with a short, 40-second fuse.

Our two rocket scientists, afraid they might slip on the ice while running away after lighting the fuse, decide on the following course of action. They light the 40-second fuse; then with a mighty thrust, they throw the stick of dynamite as far away as possible.

Unfortunately, their dog is a highly trained black Labrador used for retrieving – especially things thrown by the owner. You guessed it; the dog takes off across the ice at a high rate of speed and grabs the stick of dynamite with the burning 40-second fuse, just as it hits the ice. The two men swallow, blink, start waving their arms and screaming at the dog to stop.

The dog, apparently being cheered on by his master, keeps coming. One hunter panics, grabs the shotgun and shoots the dog. The shotgun is loaded with No. 8 birdshot, hardly enough to stop a black Lab. The dog stops for a moment, slightly confused, then continues on. Another shot, and this time the dog, still standing, becomes really confused and, of course, terrified, and thinks these two geniuses have gone insane.

The dog takes off to find cover and runs under the brand-new Navigator. The men continue to scream as they run. The red-hot exhaust pipe on the truck touches the dog's rear end, he yelps, drops the dynamite under the truck and takes off after his master.

Boom! The Navigator is blown to bits and sinks to the bottom of the lake. The insurance company said that sinking a



vehicle in a lake by illegal use of explosives is not covered by the policy.

(more)

The dog is okay; in fact, doing fine.

I suspect that story is apocryphal, and you are probably thinking, "Well, why are you sharing it?" Whether the story is true or not, here are a couple of reasons:

- 1. In these difficult days, you probably need a good laugh and if this story doesn't do that for you, what else would?
- 2. It illustrates how people can do some really stupid things, and that includes me.

Surely, there must be some occasions when God sees the foolishness we do and wonders, "What just happened?"

And yet, God loves us. With all our imperfections, all our sins, God loves us. God sees something in us worth saving. And that is why God sent Jesus.

God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him (1 John 4:9 NLT).

Beecher Hunter