



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 25 April 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Mon, Apr 25, 2011 at 9:32 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

To: Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hi Dear Phillip,

Easter week this week. I hope you enjoyed your Easter in Brasil.

This past Monday was Patriots Day in Massachusetts so Heather and I both had the day off. I drove down to Bradford's apartment with our bikes loaded on a bike rack. Bradford and I then did a 34 mile bike ride. We got on the Minuteman trail right near his apartment and rode northwest to the end of the trail in Bedford. That's where the pictures next to the rail car were taken. From there we road over into Concord and since we were so "close" to TCC, we made the trip there and took a break. You'll recognize the white board from my cubicle. The pictures you drew are still there. :)

Next is the map of the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The weather was very nice, about 66 degrees; not like last year when we were freezing! I was worried on Saturday that it would be miserable and cold on Easter Sunday because that's how it was on Saturday, but it warmed up and was very nice. You can see that from the pictures of the egg hunt. Apparently I was a little more clever in hiding the eggs this year. There were many complaints, but there were also many eggs pretty much out in plain sight if you stood in the right place. After the hunt we talked with Anna Adams for a few minutes and then came in for Easter dinner. On the table were the baskets from the "Easter Bunny" with some presents for everyone. The traditions continue.

I spent a bunch of time this weekend and during the past week working on an 18 month calendar for you. I think you'll really like it. There are a total of 175 different pictures spread out over the 18 months based on the month the events occurred. I enjoyed looking through all the pictures and being reminded of events. I'm glad I have that photo journal.

The talk your Mom gave Sunday in Sacrament Meeting was awesome. It was filled with the spirit and touched me deeply. Many others in the congregation also felt the spirit and talked with Joyce afterwards about it. Seeing so many pictures of Stanford as I selected those for your calendar was kind of hard at times. It just hits me sometimes a fresh that he is gone, and my heart gets heavy and I choke up some. I

could really go on a pity party if I let myself, but I try not to dwell on the sad aspects of it. Instead I try to envision what Stanford is doing on the other side, and how many other of our ancestors are there. I think we're the ones that experience the sadness. Those that have gone to the other side are happy and at peace, assuming that they lived up to what they knew they should be doing. Stanford certainly lived up to what he knew. I'm sure he is happy.

It's Monday now and I'm eating my breakfast here at work. I ordered the calendar this morning from the WalMart website. It's going to take at least until this Friday to arrive at the store and possibly as late as May 5th. We'll get it in the mail quickly after it arrives. I decided to order four of them, one for you, one for me at work, one for the home, and one for Heather at work. I'll ask Bradford later if he would like one. If so, we'll get another one.

Spiritually I'm going through a cycle again. It is always this way for me. I'm in a lower point right now. A few weeks back I was at a high point and had some spiritual experiences. Right now I'm in a low point and feel like I have been left on my own. I don't like the low points. I try to analyze what makes the change. I recognize that I get somewhat casual with my prayers. I recognize that I just kind of go through the motions, but I'm not concentrating and seeking. I never have done very well keeping a journal, but I understand the value of it. A journal provides a way to remember past experiences. It is personal scripture in a way. I'm glad to read in your email that you are doing better at journal keeping.

I need to get to work now. I love you and am thankful that you have desires to serve the Lord as one of His missionaries. Keep at it. Do what you know you're supposed to do and you will be blessed.

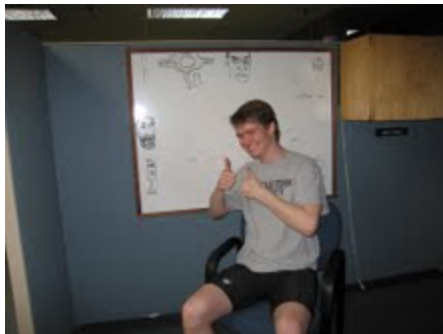
Love,

Dad

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John R Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>
<http://larsen-family.us>

22 attachments



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