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Brasil Week 6

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Querido Familia,

I can never keep the number of weeks straight, but oh well. This on the 25th of April.

I was going to ask how Easter was but it looked like it was filled with the usual awesomeness. Here in Brasil we didn't do too much if not anything for Easter. Lots of people were gone visiting family, so we got to see no one in the streets! :P Although one different thing here is that people hang Judas Iscariots over the city. I saw 2 during the weekend. Didn't get to take a picture of one, but they were pretty weird.

One thing Dad, I noticed on my camera that there is a line and the screen is flickering lightly. I hope that it isn't a sign of it dying. I have been trying to take good care of it. It can only be seen on a black screen or parts of pictures that are really dark. I forgot to ask you about that. Have you heard anything about the Ensign Article yet too? I am excited for that Calendar! Thanks for doing that dad!

Mom, I got to use the Plan of Salvation puzzle last week! I made sure of it. We taught the Plan of Salvation to Carlos' cousin Sandra. She has a baptismal date for this upcoming Saturday which is exciting.

Heather, Sounds like it was a fun experience at Anime Con. Con Plague! Haha. I enjoyed going to the Con. And that is an awesome feeling when someone else enjoys the stuff that you make! (Sorry I got your email later and was a bit more rushed than usual.) I hope you feel better and get to bed on time! I have also been feeling homesick lately. O_o

Brad, looks like it was an awesome bike trip. We'll have to go biking when I get back. I did 12 weeks of biking in Texas, and that was really fun. Here, it's all walking. That is a very different schedule than other schools such as college or High School. I hope everything goes well with that. That's cool too about the programming language. I kind of want to learn more about computers when I get back so I can do more stuff with that. What are you using LUA for? Sometimes I have to remind myself that I am

in Brasil, another country. It has been a rough experience with the language. Eventually I磗 get it.

Julia, ABC HIVE LOLOL Micky Mouse! Micky Mouse! Haha funny stuff! Sorry really rushed right now but yeah I have been practicing with pen. I don磗 have the drawing pens I had at home though, but I have been using a Zebra. I have noticed an improvement in myself anyways, probably a combination of just drawing more. Sorry, I磗 reply better next time!

About Mother磗 Day call: We have transfers the week before Mother磗 day, and I磗 find out if I am leaving probably next Monday. We will figure out which house we will be going to and I will get you the information on the number to call so we can talk. Or what were you talking about for mothers day calls? What Ricky did or Karen.

The weather here the past 2 weeks has been absolutely crazy. Every single day it has thunderstormed, and its been pretty overcast a lot of the time too which is a bummer... Also, the carnival that is nearby our house, with a feris wheel and other rides is leaving. Its a bit sad that they are moving to a new location now. It was cool to see the Feris Wheel every night from the street walking home. Also there have been a lot of rainbows all the time which is pretty cool too. ``Double Rainbow!!創

I had another experience where I spoke and after I had said what I wanted to, the people said ``N鏘 entendi, desculpe, o que ele falou?創 That is somewhat frustrating, but it happens. O_o

Sandra, one of our investigators told us a story about how she was having a lot of headaches and couldn磗 focus, but then she thought to say a prayer and when she had done that, the headaches went away instantly and she didn磗 have any more problems with that. I have been studying prayer a lot, and God truly does answer all sincere prayers. It may not be in the time frame you are expecting, but it is going to be in the manner that is going to be best for you. From her experience her testimony about prayer had been strengthened, and she no longer tries to get out of saying prayers in lessons. It is awesome to be able to witness the changes that occur in people and the blessings that they receive as they accept the Gospel.

Its pretty crazy to think that in a week I will no longer be a teenager. Weird. 20 Years old...

As for this past week, it has been quite the roller coaster. It has been a struggle with homesickness still. Not being able to communicate with the people I am around, combined with not receiving mail and hearing from home as easily are big contributors. I am trying to make the best of this trial. I磗 had quite the welcome to Brasil.

One thing that I have noticed is the difference between the 2 missions. I have thought though that God wanted me to have many experiences that I had in Texas, and that I should apply the things that I learned and all the lessons and things to my work here in Brasil. I have learned so much though about so many things these past 7 months. It has been quite the adventure.

I look forward to the package, thanks for doing that. And yes mom, some chocolate would be good too, Kit kats, or 100 grands, or something like that. I am finally getting used to, kind of, what food I buy each week for when we ^{live} at the house.

One thing that I am learning more is relying on the Lord through this experience. That is the only way I ^{can} be able to do his work.

Jesus Christ is our savior and redeemer. I have really enjoyed reading Jesus the Christ lately. He lives, and he and our Heavenly Father love us.

I also finished reading the Book of Mormon again this past week. So I started it again. I am so grateful that we have the scriptures today to study and learn from, and to be taught by the Holy Ghost while reading them.

Thanks for everything, I love you guys! miss you too!

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

I ^{will} try to get better at replying to all your questions, I have been a little more rushed feeling today, anyways. Sorry if I missed anything!

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