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**10/24/2011 - São Luís**

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Mon, Oct 24, 2011 at 11:10 AM

To: John Larsen <John@larsen-family.us>, joyce@larsen-family.us, Anki Larsen <shadrach.anki@gmail.com>, Bradford Larsen <brad.larsen@gmail.com>, Julia Larsen <julia@larsen-family.us>

Querida Familia,

So well using my memory card to send some picture ended up wiping the memory card I think. I can't find my picture at all on it... And those aren't the pictures that I sent home already... I had a few that I wanted to send home... Dang it.. I hope that isn't the case, I will continue looking anyways. Well that was a good thing to have happen.. So no pictures this week.

São Luís is quite the awesome city. We arrived in the late afternoon and started cleaning our house. A funny thing that happened is that we arrived with the rain! It rained for 2 days after we got here, and it isn't the season for rain. Some of the members joked about how we arrived with random weather. The streets here are mostly paved, some are dirt roads, but it is much better than the random rocky roads in Teresina. My feet aren't getting destroyed, and my shoes will last longer here.

We went and visited some people that we could. It is always an adventure entering another area when you don't know a single thing about the area except that the name of the city. It is really awesome though because the majority of the members here have more than 20 years in the church! A lot of them have more years than I have!

We live on the second floor of a house of a member. She is really cool, and she has given us food to eat several times already. The house that we live in is a nice house too, although we spent the first day cleaning it. There had been almost a week where missionaries didn't live there. After Wednesday, we were able to start work.

Wednesday's lunch turned out to be at the Bishops house, we had tried to find his house the night we arrived, but did not succeed. On the way walking to the general area of where he lives, a man stopped us with his car, asked where we were going. We told him, and he said alright come on in, I'll bring you to his house. Then we asked him who he was, and he said "I'm the bishop!" It was quite funny how that worked out.

The ward here is really awesome. The members all love the missionaries, and we

have a group of investigators that have been taught. During the time that there weren't missionaries here, there was a baptism still! We, (Elder Ribeiro and I) are both excited to be here and work. The ward's name is Cohatrac.

We have a family that we are teaching, and that have been attending church regularly for more about 4 months now! Another investigator, the husband of a member, has been attending church for a year too. We have our work cut out for us, and I am looking forward to be serving here in São Luís.

Our area covers two cities. São Luís, and a little city on the side of São Luís. We went to lunch at a member's house in that little city, and on the side of their house is a big forest-like area! It looks awesome, and one of their children says they hunt crocodiles in the river nearby at night. Haha.

Yesterday night had quite the event. We finished our planning for the next day and then a bird started flying in our room and at first I thought it was a bat. We tried giving it food and then decided to let it go but right when it flew out of the house, a cat jumped and grabbed the little bird out of the air with it's mouth and ran off to eat it... So much for trying to do a good deed. O\_o That was a random thing that happened in our house.

Here is very cold, and very windy. It is pretty much like Parnaíba, just a bigger city. It has been quite the week, we still don't know our area too well, but we'll get to learning it soon.

This email is a bit shorter this week, sorry. The work here is good, it has been quite the adventure getting to know the area again. We'll get it down though. I am glad you are all safe and had a good week. I look forward to talking to you more next P-day!

Love you lots,

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

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