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10:20 AM

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Querida Familia,

Happy Thanksgiving! Happy Turkey Day! There isn't a Thanksgiving feast here in Brasil, so you'll just have to enjoy that for me.

This past week was pretty good. I really enjoyed it, learned a lot and we worked hard. It was rather a normal week.

On P-Day, we visited the Centro Historical of the city. It is really cool there, we went into a few Catholic churches, and we walked through old streets. We went to this one point where you can see the ocean. It was the first time that Elder Ribeiro saw the ocean, but... it was low tide... Haha. A weird thing happens here where all the water leaves and you just see the sand below. He thought that was really cool. I think it is pretty cool that I know someone who hadn't seen the ocean. Another cool thing was there was a statue made of foam that reminded me of the statue of Jesus at the visitor centers of the church. We took pictures in front of it, and I made sure to take lots of pictures of the visit.

Tomorrow there is another group of missionaries that were here when I arrived, that are going home. Elder Adams, who was in my district here, and Elder Arrant who I lived with in Parnaíba, and Elder Rackham that translated for me when Elder Godoy came to our mission the week that I arrived. As such it is a weird feeling that I am getting older on the mission.

I really enjoyed the email from Ricky, the other Elder Larsen in Vitória. There is a family here, and the wife is from the state Espírito Santo. That is a pretty awesome state to be serving a mission in. It is true though, serving side by side with the members is the best and most successful way to do missionary work.

This week we have a baptismal date for Amarildo, Teresa, Amanda, and Mariana, a family that we have been teaching since we got here. They have been attending church for about a month before we arrived. They are really excited to be baptized!

The Christmas decorations are coming out, except it is lacking the snow, but it is nice to see christmas lights out. I wonder how it will be here in Brasil. Elder Ribeiro and I are still going to be here in São Luís. There is a huge Christmas tree. **GIGANTIC** tree in the center. They were building it when we passed through the center. It'll be finished in a bit and I will take a picture when it is done! Have the Christmas Decorations come out yet in NH?

This Sunday I got a little sick but I am feeling better now. It was a weird one day thing that happened. All the members have been helping out and have been giving me a lot of juice... haha Acerola which is a fruit that has 3 times more vitamin C than a cup of Orange Juice. So I am being taken care of, no need to worry.

Transfers happened this week, just got a call right now, and we know for certain that we will be here for the next transfer unless weird stuff happens in the middle.

Love you a lot, glad to hear from you and hope you have a great week! Have a happy Thanksgiving! Talk to you next week,

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

P.S.

The Pictures... Success! I finally got to send pictures! Huzzah!

The first one is a sound file, the second one is kind of self explanatory. In one of the catholic churches, there is a picture of Jesus Christ being baptized like the Catholic church does it. It is rather famous in the mission, I had heard several times about it and finally got to see it.

The other is one of me and Elder Ribeiro walking down one of the streets in the Centro Historical.

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