

**John Larsen** <theclaw56@gmail.com>

20/2/2012 - Teresina

Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>Mon, Feb 20, 2012 at
9:37 AM

To: John Larsen <John@larsen-family.us>, Joyce Larsen <linenlady9@gmail.com>, Anki Larsen <shadrach.anki@gmail.com>, Bradford Larsen <brad.larsen@gmail.com>, Julia Larsen <julia@larsen-family.us>

Querida Familia,

Well I had an 8 hour bus ride this week to Teresina. I was transferred again... unfortunately... but at least it was to a city that I like. I am serving in the Poti Ward. There are two companionships, and we have the area divided. I am the senior companion for the first time in the mission, and I am serving with Elder Oliveira from São Paulo. He's a good guy. I am also living with Elder Christian, from California, and Elder Cooper from Wyoming. It is a fun house to live in, it has an electric fence, and a hot shower head!

Our house isn't the most organized, but it isn't the worst either. I sleep in a hammoc every night with a fan pointed on my face. It has been cooler than I remember Teresina being. It has rained several times this week, poured actually. We didn't have our umbrellas. We did have plastic bags, but it was good to be able to have that experience. We have a member here in this area that gives us food every single night from their restaurant, and we were waiting there celebrating their son's birthday during a crazy rainstorm. Elder Christian and Elder Cooper came running across the park from the bus stop in that storm, also without umbrellas. It was hilarious. I love the mission! Returning home, we had to cross the river that was where a main road was. My boots are waterproof, except when water got in them from the one hole they have, so it was then a water filled water proof boot. We went home because it didn't work out to work anymore. It was a good experience and I am happy to be serving here in this mission.

Getting to know an area after you got the trust of the members and everyone, and know the neighborhoods is annoying. I have been having to get to know the members again, and with Carnaval happening, the majority of them were at the youth campout on Sunday so I didn't get to know them anyways... I'll get to know them soon... I am just a little frustrated because I will be transferred again once I get to know these people too...

Elder Helama will be ending his mission soon, I am a bit bumbed that I won't be his

last companion. We had a good 3 months though, and I learned a lot with him. Now I am putting the stuff I learned into practice.

We are just going to stay at home for now and we have been returning early each week to our house because of the carnaval. Lots of drunks and gays walking the streets... It is a pretty tough time to work.

Well this email is short for this week, sorry about that. The keyboard wasn't making it easy. Have a good week, happy President's Day! Love you lots, Miss you.

Love,

-Elder Phillip Larsen

Pictures

The roads in our area as rivers.

I'll send more pictures next week.

Dad, you can add Daniel Coelho on Facebook. I couldn't see the other picture though, maybe you can send it bigger next week? Thanks!

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