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## 4/2/2012 - Teresina

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AM

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Querida Familia,

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULIA!

Well... this week was AWESOME! Mainly the weekend. It was sweet! I love conference!

So the first session we watched in Portuguese because there wasn't an english room set up. It was a lot different than a year ago when I watched 4 sessions in Portuguese. I understood! Although it is still better having it in English. It is hard to concentrate when you have to listen in another language.

Conference was at the Stake Center, and for the other 3 sessions we managed to get into the Family History Center and we watched it in English. That was a fun time, it was such a good experience, I was so excited for Conference, but it stinks now that it is over! 😊

I enjoyed several of the talks, Richard G. Scott's, Elder Holland's, President Uchtdorf's, President Monson's too... well I liked all of them! Those ones stuck out to me more though. Also L. Tom Perry's, that was great for some of our investigators that were there. I loved the line: The Book of Mormon, together with the Bible corrects false doctrine. I liked Russell M. Nelson's talk as well. It was just a great conference, and as usual, incredibly inspired by God. Many of the talks were related in several ways, and it was a spiritual feast. I have a testimony that this church truely is guided by modern day Prophets and Apostle called by God. How amazing it is and what a great example it is of the love God has for each and every one of us that he called prophets in our day!

It was cool too because all the members from Uruguai, and Taquari, where I first served, were at the stake center so I got to see them all! Yes! That was a great experience too to see everyone again!

Again, I had similar feelings as we were going to conference that I had 6 months ago. Getting to the bus stop, we pass many people, and on the bus we see many people.

All of these people were oblivious to the fact that Prophets and Apostles of Jesus Christ would be talking that day. To many people in the world, it is just a normal day, with normal problems and concerns. How blessed we are to have the knowledge that we have.

I am very grateful as well, that I am able to work in the Lord's work and help people learn more of Christ and have more faith in him.

That was my last conference on the mission... Strange really, that the time has flown by so fast...

The rest of the week was rather normal. Nothing happened to our district in the transfer, which is rather rare this transfer. Everywhere else in the mission had moves but we stayed the same. 2 Sisters in the city Floriano, 3 hours away are now in our district though, and they will be coming to Teresina every Tuesday for district meetings. It'll be interesting for interviews as well for Elder Christian. Its nice though having a bigger district.

This week, while at the local grocery store, I found it, as you can see in picture 8405, imported chocolate... but wait! Where is it imported from? The United States. It was a rather strange and weird thing to think about that I was buying imported candy from where I am from. Well at least I thought it was a bit different... haha 😊

We have been teaching English class for 2 weeks now, and it is going well. Every week it is getting a little better, and we are enjoying teaching the people here in the ward.

Finally we have a ward mission leader, who is incredibly excited to work. He has been helping us a lot, and the work in the ward is getting better each week. We are trying to involve the members more so that they too can grow in the work of the Lord, and rejoice as more and more people come into the Gospel.

In a month will be the last phone call home! What is happening with the time?... I think it'll be by Skype too so that'll be fun.

Sounds like a busy week you all had at home. New Car? Looks awesome! Do the seats fold into the bottom? Do the side window's roll down too?

Love you all a lot. The family is an incredible blessing that God has given all of us. I am so grateful to have the Gospel in my life. With the gospel we can have an eternal view. I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God called to restore his church on the Earth, and that every prophet since him was also called by God. The words we heard this weekend were with authority and power, and their messages inspired.

Talk to you all next week!

- Elder Phillip Larsen

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**Pictures -**

**8424** - All but 2 of the missionaries that were at the Stake Center for Conference.

**8411** - All the American missionaries on Sunday.

**8405** - Imported Chocolate from home.

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