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## 7/23/2012 - Teresina

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Mon, Jul 23, 2012 at 10:31 AM

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Querida Familia,

Well we are anxiously awaiting a phone call from the Zone Leaders, or more anxiously not wanting... It is transfer day again, and it is kind of weird to think about it. Elder Ribeiro, Elder Smith, and Elder Smoot will all go home tomorrow. I am now going to be the oldest group on the mission. Weird. We are going to just relax here in the area again for P-Day. We'll eat lunch at a member's house, and then we will stay at home.

This weekend had a lot of reflection. A member in our ward is also leaving for the MTC on Thursday. He spoke, and I thought back to the time when I was the one speaking. Yes, similarly, the time was short and I ended up talking for about 5 minutes. He had a similar experience, but then I was just thinking about the great opportunity that he is going to have. I thought back to the time I was in the MTC, all the excitement. I have a strong testimony of the importance of serving a mission. How important it is for every person that is able to serve a mission. The amazing blessings that come from this type of service, and the personal growth that also happens. It is truly a miracle and has an incredible feeling knowing that you were a instrument in the hands of the Lord to help one of his children live the gospel.

We watched "On the Lord's Errand" with some recent converts and members yesterday. I really like that movie. Everyone can receive those special promptings that can be answers to the prayers of someone. If you have not watched that movie yet, I suggest that you do.

*Wow the mouse and keyboard on this computer are awful. It makes typing a lot harder!*

We worked a lot more with the members this past week, and the ward is getting really excited! There will be a division soon, which will make the church even stronger in this area of the city. The members are all contributing, and everyone is with this vision of having a division!

*Traded computers so I have one that actually works well.*

Now it should be better to write.

*So where was I...*

A cool thing that finally happened this week was that we both got scripture cases. I had asked almost 5 months ago for scripture cases, and they never arrived, so I went to a local place and asked a person that knows how to make bags and she made cases for us! That was a highlight of that day. We had a really good week, although some stuff was disappointing. Maria José and her family went back to Brasilia a week ago.

I am very grateful for this time that I have to serve a mission. For the many miracles that I have been able to see during these past 2 years, and every day. Every day there is a miracle. The time of miracles has never stopped. The fact that I am able to write a letter and send it to you and it arrives a few seconds later is a miracle.

I love you all very much, and hope that you all have a great week! I love reading your emails each week and to hear from you. Talk to you all next week!

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

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**Pictures weren't able to be sent again because the USB drive wasn't reading my card and I couldn't open the pictures... How annoying.**

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