



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

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## A letter from Dad: 2 May 2011

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John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Mon, May 2, 2011 at 9:31 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

To: Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hello Dear Phillip,

First, I want to wish you a very Happy Birthday! I know this is a couple of days early, but you won't be checking email on your birthday.

I'm sitting at work right now on a Monday morning. Somehow time got away from me this week and I'm quite late starting an email. Work was very demanding this past week. I worked until 8 PM most days last week. We are trying to meet some deadlines so I've been putting in some extra hours. I'll make an effort to return to normal hours this week.

Yesterday was Fast and Testimony meeting. Sister Blanchette was at church again. She is looking HUGE. She has past the 32 week mark and that is very good. Each day the twins can stay in the womb gives them that much more advantage for development. We keep praying for her and the twins.

I'm on my second time through April conference. Last week I listened again to President Uchtdorf's talk from the Priesthood session. You listened to it in Portuguese (?) and probably didn't get much out of it. (We will send you the May Ensign when it is available.) That talk got me thinking about promptings of the Spirit, and how to know when we are getting promptings, and the kinds of things we may get promptings for. Interestingly enough, our lesson in High Priest group on Sunday was that very talk. During the course of the lesson I brought up my question about promptings. (The general theme of the talk was on living up to the priesthood privileges that are ours.) I asked my questions about promptings. Brother Fletcher responded by telling about a talk that Brother Clay Christensen gave on the topic of promptings. He said that many years ago he decided to immediately follow promptings that popped into his mind. At first he would get one or two promptings a week. When he started following them immediately, he started getting more and more per week and then getting several per day. He taught that the Lord starts giving more promptings to people who respond to promptings. This morning while driving into work I listened to D&C section 71 among others. One verse stood out to me, verse 6: "For unto him that receiveth it shall be given more <sup>a</sup>abundantly, even power." That made me think of the many places in the

scriptures where it teaches that those that receive will get more and more, and those that won't receive have what they already have taken away. So, I'm going to try to be open to the promptings.

What is a prompting? I will often have thoughts pop into my mind concerning work or daily things. Are these promptings? Everyone has those experiences, people in the Church and non members. Are they receiving promptings too? Do the promptings have to be related to only gospel things? Since we are supposed to be of service to all mankind and have charity, wouldn't we be able to get promptings about anything? I was lying in bed Sunday morning starting to wake up and had the thought pop into my head that I needed to email Rob Rickless telling him about some ideas I had had on Saturday about the problems we have been trying to solve this past week. So, I went straight downstairs and sent him an email. Was that a prompting? Then there are other promptings that come, like remembering to record on my iPaq the baby blessing Brother Rackliffe gave to their new son Peter Timothy Rackliffe, so that I can make a CD of the blessing for them.

Anyway, doing good is the right thing.

As you might recall, I have all your email being forwarded to my email so that important stuff won't get lost. Yesterday there was a Facebook email sent to your account that was a Friend request from Beatriz Memoria. I looked at her home page and it appears to be someone from Teresina. So, I accepted the request.

Mothers Day is this Sunday. Please give us the information we'll need to make the call. Remember that our meeting schedule is 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. You're an hour ahead of us so we won't even get out of church until 1:00 PM your time and then we'll need to travel home, etc.

The calendars haven't arrived yet. Once they do we'll get one in the mail for you.

I'd better get to work now. I love you bunches. I'm proud of you and am thankful that you're my son. Keep striving and working and the Lord will bless you.

Love,

Dad

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