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## Brasil - 10-17-2011

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

Querida Familia,

So... This is a bit weird, the feelings I am having right now... I have had quite the week.

It started off with a lot of appointments falling through. There have been challenges with the work going on here in our area, but we have been trying to push through it all. We found out today though, that our area is getting closed and in Parnaiba Branch 2 there will only be 2 missionaries again. There aren't enough missionaries in the mission to support that area entirely so there needed to be an area that closed. Elder Ribeiro and I are being transferred together to São Luis, to the same area! That is pretty cool. Never seen that before. I am a bit bumed to be leaving Parnaiba though, leaving the missionaries here. I had a good stay here, but at the same time, it was really short. Only 1 transfer.

We are going to be leaving 4 couples to be baptized, in our area. The new house will only have 2 missionaries living in it now, (it is a huge house too), and for the first time since I arrived in Brasil, I won't be living with Elder Thomé in the same house. We came from Taquari\Uruguai.

Currently I am having trouble finding keys on this keyboard... It is very different from other Keyboards I have used here.

I am pretty bumed to be leaving another area. Goodbyes again. Ugh... dang... This is my least favorite part of the mission.

We were going to go to this one area here in Parnaiba that has dunes, well things like dunes, but with Transfers and a bunch of stuff happening now, it isn't going to work out. Wow, I have only been in Parnaiba for one transfer, yet at the same time it feels like it has been a lot longer. The mission is flying by though. I have less than a year left, and I am trying to do as much as I can.

This last transfer we worked really hard.

Elder Bednar is going to come to our mission! I just hope that we all meet in Teresina, because I want a full mission conference. That is something that will be cool, but I don't know how all that will work. I just hope that we get to hear Elder Bednar speak. I would be really disappointed if we don't get to hear him.

Now I am trying to think of new stuff that happened this week, but at the same time, I can't think of anything. It has been a harder week with how the work has been going. We walked a lot, every day, and every day I am getting more and more tired. Hopefully we'll live closer in our area than here.

This email is a bit cut up and choppy. I will be sure to have a better email for next week.

Oh! I remembered one thing! One member that lives in our area is the main importer of oranges for the city of Parnaiba, so we asked him if we could take a picture with his orange truck and he said sure. It wasn't all of his oranges, but he said that every week he brings 1,800 kg of oranges! That's a lot of oranges! He is the only importer of oranges for the city of Parnaiba. It was pretty funny, he reminded me of Mr. Orange from the game Okami.

Are you going to replace the van or just repair it? What is going to happen with that situation?

Heather, are you still there? Also Bradford? How have you been doing? mom said you are in a class at MIT now, that is pretty cool. MIT is in Boston? Heather, what have you been up to lately? Nanowrimo is coming up soon, will you be participating?

I bought a card reader for my SD cards, but I am not sure if I want to use it because my card might get a virus or something. That is the problem with public computers.... What do you think?

Wow, Time truly does fly! That is incredible that Josh will be leaving for the mission soon! Congrats dude! Also, keep working on it Andrew. You'll get out there when the Lord needs you to.

This email has been a bit shorter, and I apologize. It has already been a long day. I am going to miss the members here, but I think it'll be better for the Branch with just one companionship to help it grow. The lunches were more difficult to schedule, and also leaving with members was really hard. I am going to go trusting in the Lord on this one, President Dias is inspired. I know that the church is the Lord's kingdom on the Earth. I know that Thomas S Monson is a prophet, and that we are blessed to have a

prophet on the Earth. I know that the Temple is the house of the Lord. Families are sealed for Time and All Eternity inside them.

I miss you very much, and am glad to have heard from you all. Love you lots,

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

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