

Helloooooo my friends, tudo bom? Como vos estão???? I hope you are all having a great week and are feeling healthy as it seems that everyone is going back to school

A man is drowning in the river in Lego City, the only way to save him is to join the google photos album by clicking this link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4P9d4ozmNzrznkWr7>

This week was a blast. I was super duper exhausted by the end of it, but I'm proud of all the stuff we were able to get done. But I am still absolutely spent.

A big thing (For my Texas Friends):

Normally, we'd put our Notable Events here, but this is more important for right now. For my dear friends up there in Texas, it is important for me to let you know that in November, you have the opportunity to tour a temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Fort Worth Texas Temple is recently completed and will have it's open house visiting starting on November 5th until 21st. The temple is a sacred place where members of The Church can worship God and make covenants, or sacred agreements, with Him. It is an unforgettable experience, and one that is incredibly special to me. If you have any interest in checking it out, please let me know and I'll help you find out how to visit!

Agora, Eventos Notáveis:

- Tuesday, we went to an irmã's house to do some gardening work for her. We ended up being there for almost 9 hours. It was a beast but we had some fun. And also our friend Hélio was there to help! So we finally got a lesson in with him (only took 2.5 weeks...)!

- Wednesday, we had District Council and President Interviews. Well, we got to the church, and President didn't show up... He ended up driving to the other side of the mission because his calendar said our interviews were another day. Whoops. He ended up driving 1h30 to our area and because of that, my interview got moved to later this transfer. Oh well.

- Wednesday, we also had a division with our District Leader, Elder Barbosa. I got to be with his companion, Elder Pugina (Elder 🍮 (Pudim) as we call him here in Brazil), and that was a breath of fresh air to speak English. It was also an awesome division.

- Thursday I don't remember anything except that we helped a member family move into their new house. It's like 3x the size and awesome.

- Friday night, we were scheduled to meet this girl named Fiorella at 7pm. She's a member who recently moved to our area and Elder Ribeiro and Elder Barbosa visited her on the division. Friday morning, we sent her a text confirming about our visit and she said that she wouldn't know for a little bit because her mom was out with her brother and they wouldn't be back until the afternoon. Around 4pm, we text her to confirm again, and nothing. Around 6:30, we decided to give her a call on WhatsApp just to see what was up and she didn't answer the call, and then proceeded to block us... I have no idea.

- Saturday, we played 2 Truths and a Lie in English Class, and then we had some weird street contacts. We visited an inactive member and her family (who are also all inactive) and also participated in the Stake YSA (Young Single Adults) activity. It was chill, I got pied because they didn't explain the rules of the game correctly but oh well.

- Sunday, we visited Diego and Jessica's house for what was an awesome lesson about the Plan of Salvation. Diego and Jessica want to be baptized, but they aren't married legally, so there's been some delay in the process. BUT, their 10 year old son, also Diego, wants to get baptized. So we've marked a date for his baptism on September 6th, and it has a 99% chance of working out.

Pensamento Espiritual:

This week, Elder Patrick Kearon of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles gave a devotional at Brigham Young University entitled, "Peace and Rest—Even Now". It is incredible. He says,

"We need goals, we need plans. They keep us focused on things that really matter. They have a place. But is it right that they consume us, and that we apply that kind of focus and pressure to every element of our lives?"

"Your best is certainly good enough, that you are loved more than you can imagine, and that it isn't your achievements that define you"

Much of the time, I worry about how my work is as a missionary, that so often I forget that I am not supposed to be perfect. I forget that my message and purpose is to bring others to Jesus Christ. When we have stuff to do, how often do we pause and focus on our Savior?

Elder Kearon tells us that no matter what we do, God will always love us. Of course, He wants us to do good continually, but when we struggle and fail, He doesn't want us to bear ourselves up. As disciples of Christ, we need to do more WITH the Savior rather than FOR the Savior.

When we slow down and focus on the simple and eternal truths, our relationship with Christ can truly become one of a friendship.

You are not your mistakes. You are allowed to rest even if you feel like you don't deserve it. You are loved by Him, so much so that He gave His life for you. And He would do it again in a heartbeat. Slow down, and be with Him, and your world will change.

Reading Recommendation of the Week:

Give "Peace and Rest—Even Now" by Elder Patrick Kearon a listen. If that's the only thing you do today, then I'm happy.

<https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/patrick-kearon/peace-and-rest-even-now/>

I love you so dearly my friends. Your Father in Heaven loves you, and Christ loves you. Send me an email to let me know how your week was, and for those returning to school, send me your class schedule or something like that.

I love you, and so does Jesus Christ,

- Elder John Randall Gee 🇧🇷

P.S., pics this week include:

- Distritão Fortão Casa Grande
- Me with whipped cream on the face
- Lit pic with Elder Pugina
- Me on a bridge at 8:30pm right before we met a new person to teach 🍷🍷







