

Hello my friends!!!

Per usual, here's a Google photos album link that I totally didn't forget to drop last week, but nevertheless we persist: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4P9d4ozmNzrznkWr7>

This week moved pretty slowly. We got a lot done and a lot of things happened. But I'm going to be so honest, I really needed this p-day. Not anything against this week, it was an awesome week, just long.

But without further ado, onto America's favorite segment...

***Notable Events:***

- Tuesday, we had TWO meals with members. This is notable because apparently our ward would never have meals with the missionaries but now we have them multiple times a week? And two in one day? Fantástico

- Wednesday, to help out with the Zone Conference going on, we had to pick up El Pollo Loco for lunch. I also got a song stuck in my head and to this day, I still don't know what song it is and it's been driving me crazy 😊 But nevertheless we persist 😞

- Thursday, we exchanged with the West Anaheim Missionaries and the miracles we experienced on that exchange were incredible. **1st:** I had incredible shawarma at lunch, **2nd** we got back in contact with some people who haven't been taught in a few years, **3rd** we had a fire lesson with Johnny and we're pretty confident that he's getting baptized this coming Saturday (stay tuned for that), and **4th**, we stopped by Janet and her family (that family I keep mentioning the last 3 weeks) and we were able to put Janet on date for baptism. Also, when we got there, Janet's brother in law was in the corner of the room and was quietly listening but I went over to him and talked with him. He's super interested! I gave him a Book of Mormon and he said he would come to church (spoiler alert, he did)

- Friday, we had Zone Conference! 4 of the zones in the California Anaheim Mission all met and we got trainings from the Mission Presidents, President and Sister Galotera, and the Assistants.

We had El Pollo Loco for lunch 🍗 and I also got a huge headache out of nowhere. Zone Conference was awesome but the headache sucked... But more on Zone Conference later!

- Also on Friday, another Elder referred to me, "A Gee" so now we're creating a Dr. Seuss-esque book entitled, "A Gee in a Tree". It's going to be a great book so look out for a release date in coming emails

- Saturday, it was a pretty standard day. We originally started the day with 6 lessons on the schedule, but the first three all canceled... However, the last 3 all went through and all went great! I also did some language study that morning and that was rough 😊 good thing I don't have to go to a foreign country next week...

- Sunday was a pretty miraculous day. We had 10 of our friends come to church, including the entirety of Janet's family. They all loved church and so we'll be meeting with them a lot this week.

### ***Spiritual Thought:***

In Zone Conference, we talked a lot about embracing change (becoming a beautiful butterfly) and then also having the strength to change. We talked about 1 Nephi 7:16-17, which goes,

***16 And it came to pass that when I, Nephi, had spoken these words unto my brethren, they were angry with me. And it came to pass that they did lay their hands upon me, for behold, they were exceedingly wroth, and they did bind me with cords, for they sought to take away my life, that they might leave me in the wilderness to be devoured by wild beasts.***

***17 But it came to pass that I prayed unto the Lord, saying: O Lord, according to my faith which is in thee, wilt thou deliver me from the hands of my brethren; yea, even give me strength that I may burst these bands with which I am bound.***

President Galotera pointed out that Nephi didn't ask for the binds to be loosened. He asked for the strength to overcome the bands. He said that, "They didn't ask for the circumstances to change. They asked for the strength to change their circumstances"

God wants us to help us, but He wants us to put in our own effort. How many times have we said, "Oh I did this all by myself and my own strength" rather than "God gave me the strength to do this". I know I have multiple times.



But nevertheless, we persist. That's what God wants for us to do. Persist. Carry on. But He will give us the strength to do so.

I love and miss you all! Feel free to reach out and ask me any questions that you may have. Send me emails! I will read literally whatever you send and I will probably enjoy it. Remember that you are valued and loved!

Miss and love you guys!

- Elder Gee

Pics include:

- Us at the Shawarma place  (so good y'all I will miss so much)
- Contacting in the rain 
- Elder Sorensen during our weekly planning





