

Hello my wonderful friends! I hope you have all been well.

Join the Google photos album to see living proof that white men CAN indeed jump: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4P9d4ozmNzrznkWr7>

This week was the last week of the transfer so we had to work extra hard to make it a good one. There was a lot of things that happened but overall this week was pretty short, or at least it felt that way. Also, for those of you interested, ***the dog is still alive.***

Notable Events:

- We had a fire day of work on Tuesday. It started off pretty bad as a day in general, I just didn't want to do much work, but I kicked Satan aside and thought about the people who need this message so much, and I was so excited to work. We met a lot of people who were interested in learning more but nearly all of our lesson already planned for the day fell through. But it was still a great day

- In the Interlagos Mission, every new missionary goes to the Mission office at the end of their first transfer for what is basically Zone Conference. And because it's my first transfer here, they told me to come along. We showed up late because our normally 1h 45m trip took almost 2h 30m because of traffic. It was a great day and it's fun to see how much my Portuguese has improved since I got here in Brazil (not much but still improved).

- We taught our friends Aline and Wesley a lot this week, and I wanna talk a little bit about them. Last month, on a super chaotic day, we walked by the park and saw this guy who we lovingly referred to as "Drunk guy" sitting on the bench. We decided we'd talk to him, but he started leaving as soon as he saw us. Not wanting to just leave the park immediately, we turned around to this couple on the bench right beside us. That's how we met Aline and Wesley. Aline told us that they had been looking for a church to join and had been praying for a good church to join. Then we showed up like 10 minutes later. Also, she met with other missionaries and was almost baptized about 8 years ago, but some things happened that caused her to stop meeting with the missionaries. It was a huge miracle that we met them. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to meet with them a ton over the last month. Things have been crazy. This week, we went over there three times. And on Thursday, we extended the invitation to them to be baptized, and they accepted so readily. They came to church on Sunday and they loved it, and their kids loved it as well.

- We celebrated Elder Brown's birthday! We both had our birthdays this transfer which was pretty cool. We got absolutely poured on while walking to our appointment, and then we bought churros at the churro truck we've been eyeing all transfer. Then we got home and our Bishop bought us pizza.

- Since Elder Fernández is leaving for home this week, a lot of goodbyes were had. On Sunday, we had a ward going away party for him. A bunch of members showed up and had the opportunity to bear a short testimony and a bunch of members brought bread and cake and it was a lot of fun. I'm sad to see Elder Fernández go, he was pretty cool.

Spiritual Thought:

This week, I listened to President Jeffrey R. Holland's "An High Priest of Good Things to Come" from October 1999. First of all, it's incredible that the words of the prophets from 26 years ago is something we study regularly. But what's even more incredible is we also study words of prophets from thousands of years ago as we study the Bible and Book of Mormon.

There's a quote at the end of the talk that a lot of people know and hold on to for hope. It says,

"Some blessings come soon, some come late, and some don't come until heaven; but for those who embrace the gospel of Jesus Christ, they come."

It's hard when you feel as if the entire world is against you and things won't get better. But we know that Jesus Christ descended below all the things of the world. And He still raised up from the dead on the third day. If not even death can stop Jesus, then it can't stop us if we follow Him. And if through Him, we can conquer death, we can also conquer every other challenge that we have thrown our way.

It may not be immediate. That light that gives us hope might be a few days, weeks, even years away. But it's still there. And I know that all of these things that happen to us are for our betterment. And I know that Christ will carry us through these times, we just have to trust in Him and in the sacrifice He paid the price for.

I can testify that things will get better. The future has everything. God does not give up on His promises. If you remain faithful that things will be better than it was before, and you keep relying on your Savior for the support you need, one day we will all say, "Oh how great is our joy". In the meantime, if you feel like things are hopeless, look to Christ, and He will help you with all that you need.

I love you guys, and I miss you. Please feel free to send me an email to let me know how you are. Also, if you would like, send me your favorite picture of The Savior. You are so so loved. By me, and by your Father in Heaven and His Son, Jesus Christ. Let me know if you need me to say some prayers for you. I'd be more than happy to. ❤️🙏

- Elder John Randall Gee

Pics include:

- The Parelheiros 6 on Sunday night
- On the way to a noite familiar as we talked about which of us killed Chuck, a dog that we knew
- With some of our recent converts, Gleisa, Anderson and little baby Aylla.
- Beautiful big blue sky and some guy in front of it







