

# From <sup>O</sup><sub>R</sub> Point <sup>O</sup><sub>F</sub> View

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## the Ladies of Mission Vanuatu

**Cindy's Journal – June 2008**

**Friday 6-20-07** - Today is classified in my books as the craziest day. Okay, maybe not the craziest ever- but it was up there in my book! There was just so much going on! Here's the rundown... I woke up bright and early with the chickens because today I was DETERMINED to get Kaela ready for school in enough time that she could ride with Rhonda and the boys (our neighbors down the road). Technically, Kaela doesn't have to be at school until 8am but, Joseph has to be there by 7:15 since he is in Class 1 (or 1<sup>st</sup> Grade). Anyway, I had much to do this morning before leaving for the airport, so I busied myself and got Kaela ready to go and walked her down to Rhonda's at 7:10am. (Which gets me going on a whole different subject...the other day I was reading a journal entry that I had written back in April of 2005, before we moved to Vanuatu. And I was lamenting because my Dad called and woke me up at 7:00am one morning and I just felt that was a real injustice! And now I find that laughable! How things change! Welcome to life in Vanuatu where getting up at 7:00 is sleeping in! In fact, I even find myself feeling slightly discontented if I do happen to lay in bed until 7:00 when I need to be up getting breakfast started, throwing in a load a clothes, showering or whatever. How things change!)

Anyway, before I got off on that rampage, I was lining out my day. I sped back home from Rhonda's (two doors down) and began hurriedly picking up the house, making the bed, straightening things, throwing in that ever-so-important load of clothes and then hopped in the shower. Thankfully, Mabel was here to help me with Melia (she stayed with me while Aaron was in Tanna) and Fiona was here to wash the dishes, sweep the floors and hang clothes. Where would I be without her help twice a week?! Housekeeping here is a whole different ball of wax than in the US and I would be in real mess if she didn't come help me! Thank the good Lord for Fiona! As soon as I got out of the shower, I browned some beef mince (hamburger meat) and cooked noodles for our spaghetti lunch that I was planning. (I like to bombard Aaron with good 'ol "American" meals when he comes back from an island trip because by then he is half-starved for food with protein and flavor!)

Then at 8:45 Mabel, Melia and I left for the airport. I stopped and bought a pack of two nightlight bulbs on the way (for \$6 - Yikes!), dropped Mabel off at her house and arrived at the airport with 3 minutes to spare! Thankfully, Aaron and Chase's plane was on time. After I picked them up, it was only 9:45 and they were "starving" and unwilling to wait for lunch so we stopped at a café for some food. We got home about 10:30. Fiona and I worked on lunch and I made two pans of brownies for a fundraiser for Kaela's school while Aaron and Chase

unpacked, showered and picked up Kaela from school. Thankfully, Fiona was there because Aaron got home with Kaela at the same time the spaghetti was ready, the brownies were done and Melia was ready to nurse and go down for a nap! What a fun time it was juggling all that excitement!

After lunch, Aaron, Chase, Kaela and I got ready and went to the Mele' Waterfalls. Chase is only in town for two more days and we were trying to fit in the Vanuatu "musts". Fiona stayed with Melia (who thankfully, took a nice nap in the afternoon). We had a great time at the falls (it was our first time to take Kaela and boy was she excited to finally be big enough to go!) and got home about 3pm. I immediately changed clothes, got Kaela down for a nap and then started working on cooking tortillas for our fajitas tonight. With 8 adults and 2 "eating" kids for dinner I had to make a double recipe and it took me forever to get them all rolled out and cooked...all 45 of them! Thankfully, the night slowed down after dinner and we had a wonderful evening eating fajitas and hearing all about Aaron and Chase's time in Tanna!