## Building a Home - by Lorelei Pepe

What does your home look like? Look around, it is a comfortable haven or a messy place? Are you happy with it?

Being an artist/writer in a crowded small apartment I am always frustrated trying to keep it neat. I have piles of papers in one corner and art supplies in another. But everything is organized in my head at least.

When I was a kid, we lived in a huge 3 story house with a basement and attic so we could have lots of stuff! We could quickly hide it away when company was coming too. It was a comfortable, loving home and welcoming to all who came in. Mom always had something on the stove brewing to feed the neighborhood kids or cookies and milk. I remember we would sit on the brick front stoops out in summer and watch the cars go by. Our strong house was brick and built on a firm foundation. We knew we would be safe and warm when the winter snows came and howling winds would rattle the windows. It was old, but sturdy. Makes me think of my faith. From a very young age, thanks to my mom our faith grew stronger each year. She passed on her beliefs and instilled them in all the family. She build a firm solid foundation for us to grow on. So when the storms of life come and challenge me I know I can withstand them as Jesus is the focus and heart of my life. He helps me, through prayer to withstand the hardships, and persevere.

I might be getting older and changing but I know my God never will. He will be the same forever - my rock and my salvation. Through the holy spirit he talks to me and guides me every moment of my day.

I know that He is more powerful than I could ever imagine and comes first. As David Jeremiah, the preacher says, "make Jesus the President in your life and make him the ruler of your heart".

So how's your house? How's your heart? Is it built on rock or sand?