

Knocking on the Door- by Lorelei Pepe

I live in a duplex with 4 apartments and some of the doors still have the original locks from 20-30 years ago. I had to replace my door and locks when I moved in as the lock was not working properly.

My neighbor however, decided to wait due to the cost as we have not only a front door, but a screen door too. I replaced both. But late one night I heard my friend downstairs struggling in the dark to open her front door. She called me and I went down to try and help. She knew it needed to be replaced but put it off. Her boyfriend had already taken the lock apart once before and put it back together, as he did not want to spend the money. Well, now he was no where around, and she could not get in the front door! She was upset and frustrated and tired, after a long day at work. I felt bad for her and I gave it a try. I even got my screw driver and my WD-40 that usually fixes everything! But to no avail, nothing worked. I gave up and told her it looks like we have to call a locksmith. She was not happy as it would cost over \$100.00, but what could we do? So we searched the internet for a locksmith and he came at midnight! She learned a hard lesson.

This made me think of the painting by Leonardo DaVinci. He did one of Jesus where His back was to us and He was facing the door. But the unusual thing was there was no handle on the front of the door. I always wondered about that and the meaning of it. Then one morning listening to a sermon on television I heard the pastor talk about this painting and the door! He said the reason there was no handle on the outside was because it was on the inside! He said it was on the other side of the door. We have to open the door and let Jesus in our hearts! Now it made sense to me. Jesus was waiting patiently for us to come to Him and have a relationship with Him!

Then I turned to the Bible and found in the book of **Revelation, chapter 3, verse 20** where Jesus preached. **“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears MY voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him and he with Me.”** So all we have to do is ask. So easy and simple. Once we let Him in He will be with us forever. I don't know why so many people hesitate. He paid the price for our sin and offers us eternal life. There is more to this life than this earthly life that we have here and I believe heaven is our real home.

I have realized that once we give our hearts and minds to Jesus, He always welcomes us. He forgives us for our past and wants us to focus on Him and live in the present. I know in this technical age many of us long to be connected to something “real”. We can become isolated, alone and depressed during these hard times. I know when I need encouragement I look to Jesus. Through faith and prayer and doing my Bible study every day, I remain grounded. It is so easy to fall off the course.

Jesus is always welcome in my home and heart and has come into my life forever. I hope and pray that once you find Jesus that you will continue to believe, and trust and have faith in Him. Then you will find triumph over everything! He is waiting...