Direct Line

Orlando Tolentino

At 6:00 pm at night, without fail, our phone will start ringing. When I answer, it will always be called by a telemarketing firm trying to sell something. Sometimes they will reach a voice recording in my answering machine as sometimes we are not home. I understand what they feel that

it is frustrating to call someone and hear a voice recording instead of talking to them directly.

It is encouraging to know that when we call God we can go straight to Him with our concerns since there is no busy line. We don't even need to pay long

distance call --- right then and there we get an answer as we have a direct line to God, and He always listens to our call 24/7. God wants to hear our voice, yet for some reason we keep Him waiting for our response. We are too busy and we lose sight of God as we are too preoccupied in many things. We need to pause from time to time and reflect on the condition of our hearts. Let me tell you a story. Moving to another country is a humbling experience. My wife Chrys and I prayed hard as we did not know of His plan for us. We were excited yet scared as we are starting from scratch but we trusted that our God is deeply concerned & cares for us. A few weeks

> after we arrived in Canada, my wife got her first job and my work was to look after my son Rvie. We prayed every day that He will lead and guide us in every decision that we make.

We realized that God wants us to seek Him first, and to spend our time to be closer to Him.

He wants us to improve in the area of obedience, faith, love, patience and gentleness as well as to examine our lives based on His desires. How about you? God is good and He always answers our prayers.

"Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33 RSV)

Praying Always