

## **Hoping to Become a DITS!**

As school was starting this year I did something unusual for me; I went to a parents meeting. Usually my wife has gone to these all important meetings, full of details covering everything from new traffic flow patterns to the inevitable checklists of do's and don'ts. I don't know what I expected to find at the meeting, but what I got was a rude awakening!

Somewhere in the middle of the meeting a lady got up and invited all of the moms to an upcoming meeting of Mothers In Touch, or MITS for short. I thought that was pretty neat! I kept waiting for one of the dads to get up and talk about the Dads In Touch, but the DITS were never represented.

As the speakers kept getting up, the Holy Spirit convicted me that I have been so busy attending to other details in my life that I have not been as involved in my children's education as I want to be. In pride I tried to tell myself I wasn't as bad as some other dads. I recalled the summer before when I had written a thank you letter to one of the teachers at the school who had taught all three of my children.

My pride reminded me that she had said, "In twenty years of teaching that was the first note that I have received from a dad!" But just as my pride was arguing for brownie points my conscience reminded me that there have been years I didn't even know all of my kids' teachers' names. I had to admit it- I was not a DITS- but I wanted to be!

By now the meeting was close to ending, but the Spirit wasn't done with me yet! The fine arts lady, Mrs. What's-her-name, announced that she would like to form a committee to study how the school can improve its fine arts program. The Holy Spirit impressed on me that I was supposed to volunteer. I am more of an athletics guy, but my oldest children are really into art and music and drama. My conscience reasoned with me that to be a Dad in touch was more about helping my children develop their potential than me reliving my glory days.

When I went to the first of those fine arts meetings, I was the only dad in a room with twelve moms; maybe other dads need to become Dads in Touch also! I am not there yet, but as I have thought about it, here are some things I think a Dad in Touch is about.

To be a Dad in Touch is to...

- Encourage your child toward their God given bent, not what you want them to be!
- Know the names of your kid's teachers, and pray for them often
- Thank them in writing for working with your child
- Volunteer to help at the school
- Help your children with their homework
- Read to your children- the Chronicles of Narnia would be a good place to start!
- Teach your children to respect and honor their teachers

Here's to all the DITS' out there!

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