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## GRATITUDE AFTER THE HOLIDAY!

I chastise myself.... I could give my grandkids music lessons, dance lessons, and never even leave my sofa.... (btw I never spend time on the sofa)... the issue is timing and willingness on my children's part to create an atmosphere of practice..... lessons without daily practice are completely useless. I had to trick, cajole, pressure, reward, chastise, bless, and accompany my kids physically and mentally during practice sessions, and bribe them with equal video game time for each minute of practice time. To make a musician takes a special blend of raw talent, pressure, desire and huge amounts of dedication as well as the ego necessary to become a performer. Two of my kids hated performing, that is a deal breaker. I had one kid who had all the necessary skills except intense motivation.

Lessons are still, however, a great brain training effort, and all three of my kids benefitted greatly from music lessons, and that alone is a rare thing. I don't know if it was worth the tens of thousands of dollars, oh, way more, one cello alone was 6,000, the viola is in my closet, the violin got painted green (a mere 2,000 in greens ha ha). My Steinway sounds like something out of vaudeville, it is so out of tune, and the pin block is cracked; my flute is so tarnished that when I put the mouthpiece to my lips it tastes like sulfur. BUT, I bless my mother and father greatly for affording me the luxury of taking lessons and pushing me to practice.

I have been so blessed, as have been all my kids and grandkids and sibs.... we made out like bandits in terms of genes and upbringing... I recognize the "inventive" spirit and the ability to connect the dots in all of my kids and grandkids brains.... and body-wise, so far, they are sterling in terms of general health. I could not have picked a better place or time to have been born and reared, or for them to be raised.

Each mind excels in different areas.... they really have very different minds.... Some thought processes scattered all over their brains, a blur of wild tangents, and others very focused. I used to think one style of thinking was best, but now I think that both are viable variations.

All in all, as we are all from dust, and will be dust again, BUT the organization in the interim which I call "life" is really quite unbelievable.

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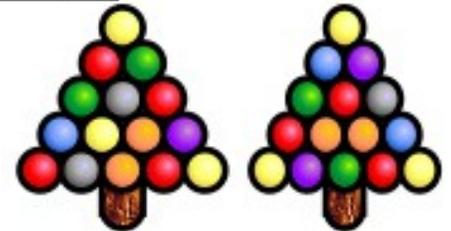
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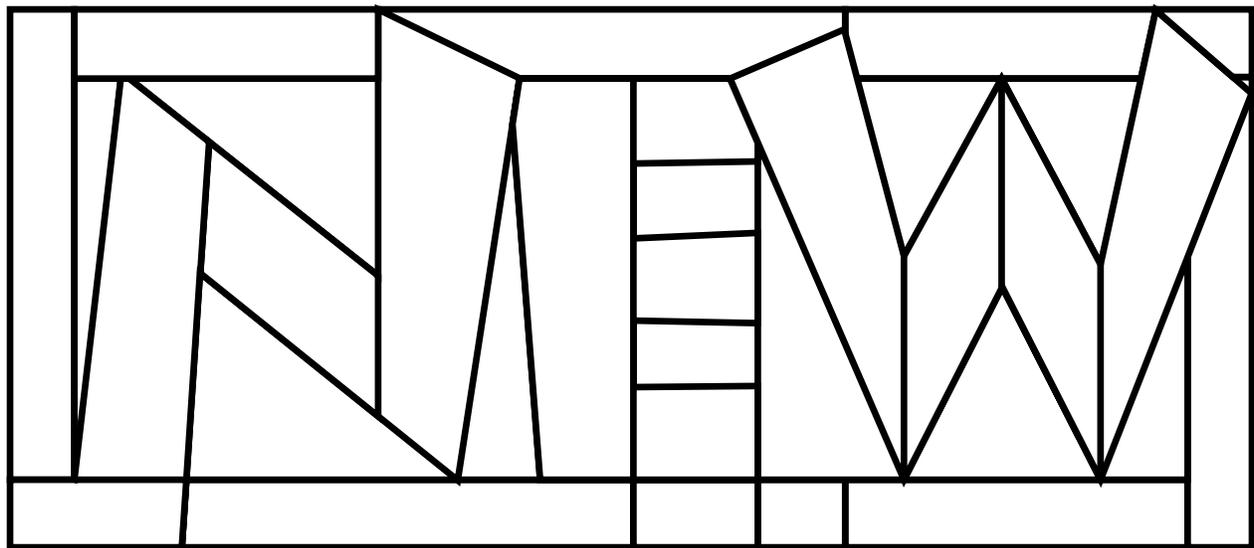
new stained glass patterns: Dec  
at [PDOpatterns.com](http://PDOpatterns.com)

and [estainedglasspatterns.com](http://estainedglasspatterns.com)



# free pattern for December

.. according to 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,.... Old things have disappeared, and all things have become NEW!



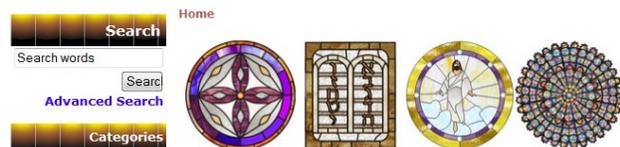
## COUPON

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