

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Scripture Reading: Acts 16:9-15

*We need to stop storming heaven for what has already been provided,
and start using what God has given us. —Frank Hammond*

Dictionary definitions for “slumgullion” describe it as a meat stew, and then mention its etymological origins. It’s possible that *slum* means “slime” and that *gullion* was a reference to mud or a cesspool. Mark Twain mentions slumgullion in *Roughing It* (1872), calling it a “vile drink served at a wayside road station.” According to another source, we’ve been eating some version of stew since the ancient Greeks dumped ingredients into “a stomach-like (paunch) of an animal and cooked it over an open fire.”

I came across another note in my study of slumgullion that tells of someone who had a friend visiting from the United Kingdom. He mentioned a stew that his mother used to make. In their household it was called “If It’s” stew. That is, “If it’s in the refrigerator, it’s going into the pot.”

In my home, slumgullion, meat stew, or “If it’s” stew, was called *goulash*, an outlandish mix of leftovers with some onions and spices thrown in. Sometimes, mother would call it “Hungarian Goulash” as though to give the entrée a touch of elegance. Mother had strong opinions about diet, believing that no food should be left behind.

This was not just prudence and frugality, it was practical and often necessary.

There is something holy about preparing and eating our “daily bread.” There’s a simplicity about stew that reminds us to be content and resourceful with what we have. This principle goes beyond just the food for which we give thanks. It applies to the gifts and talents that God has given us. It means to make full use of what we have before asking for more. It means that we will always look for ways to make lemonade out of lemons, a hooked rug out of scraps of cloth, or slumgullion out food scraps.

In other words, to do the best with what we have.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for providing for my daily needs. Thank you for those who help me and work hard to ease my way. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** John 1-3
Monday: 1 Kings 1-4
Tuesday: 1 Kings 5-7
Wednesday: 1 Kings 8-10
Thursday: 1 Kings 11-13
Friday: 1 Kings 14-16
Saturday: Psalms 52-54

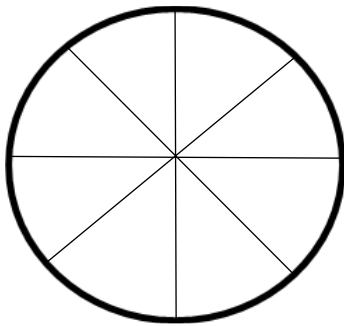
Verse to Remember

*But to all who received him, who believed
in his name, he gave power to
become children of God.*

—John 1:12

Piece of the Pie

Arrange the numbers 1-8 so that, when a number is added to its opposite, it totals nine (9).



ANSWERS: Y IN THE WORLD!—1. crypt, 2. rhythm, 3. myrrin, 4. nymph. **PIECE OF THE PIE** — Start anywhere in this order, clockwise: 8,7,6,5,1,2,3,4. There is more than one arrangement. **CRYPTO CITIES** (reading in rows, not columns): Barcelona, Bern, Brisbane, Berlin, Bangkok, Bogota, Bruges, Blackburn, Basra, Brest, Boston, Birmingham, Boise, Buffalo, Baghdad, Bari.

Y IN THE WORLD!

The following words have no vowels except for a “Y,” which provides the sound of a short “i.” Use the clues to find the words.

- ___ ___ Y ___ ___ : a vault, often beneath medieval churches, where the dead are entombed.
- ___ ___ Y ___ ___ ___ : the beat and cadence of a song.
- ___ Y ___ ___ ___ : a gift of the magi.
- ___ Y ___ ___ ___ : a mythical maiden living in the forest or near the water.

CYRPTO CITIES

This group of cities is written in code. Use known letters to help you decode the entire list. We’ve decoded one city for you.

Q L C O P K Y T L

Q P C T = B e r n

Q C M E Q L T P

Q P C K M T

Q L T A N Y N

Q Y A Y H L

Q C B A P E

Q K L O N Q B C T

Q L E C L

Q C P E H

Q Y E H Y T

Q M C D M T A J L D

Q Y M E P

Q B V V L K Y

Q L A J W L W

Q L C M