

COKER NEWS & GATHERINGS



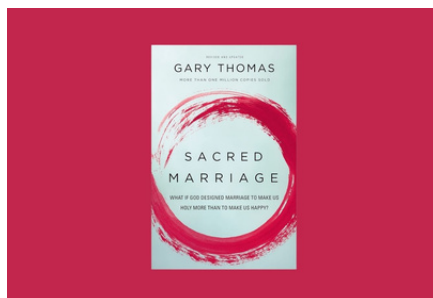
Wednesdays at Coker **5:30-7:30 PM | Family Life Center**

Join us for dinner and a time of going deeper in God's Word together. Dinner is no cost, but RSVPs are required by end of day Sunday for the following Wednesday. RSVP at Coker.org/Events, on the Coker App, or by scanning the QR Code.



Wesley Dinner Groups Leader Training **September 2** **10 AM & 6 PM | Wesley 804**

Could you host a meal and a conversation? Wesley Dinner Groups bring together 5-10 people to share a meal and talk honestly about their faith. We're looking for hosts and leaders. Join us on Sept. 2 at 10 AM or 6 PM to learn more about what it takes to lead a group. Learn more and sign-up at: Coker.org/Events



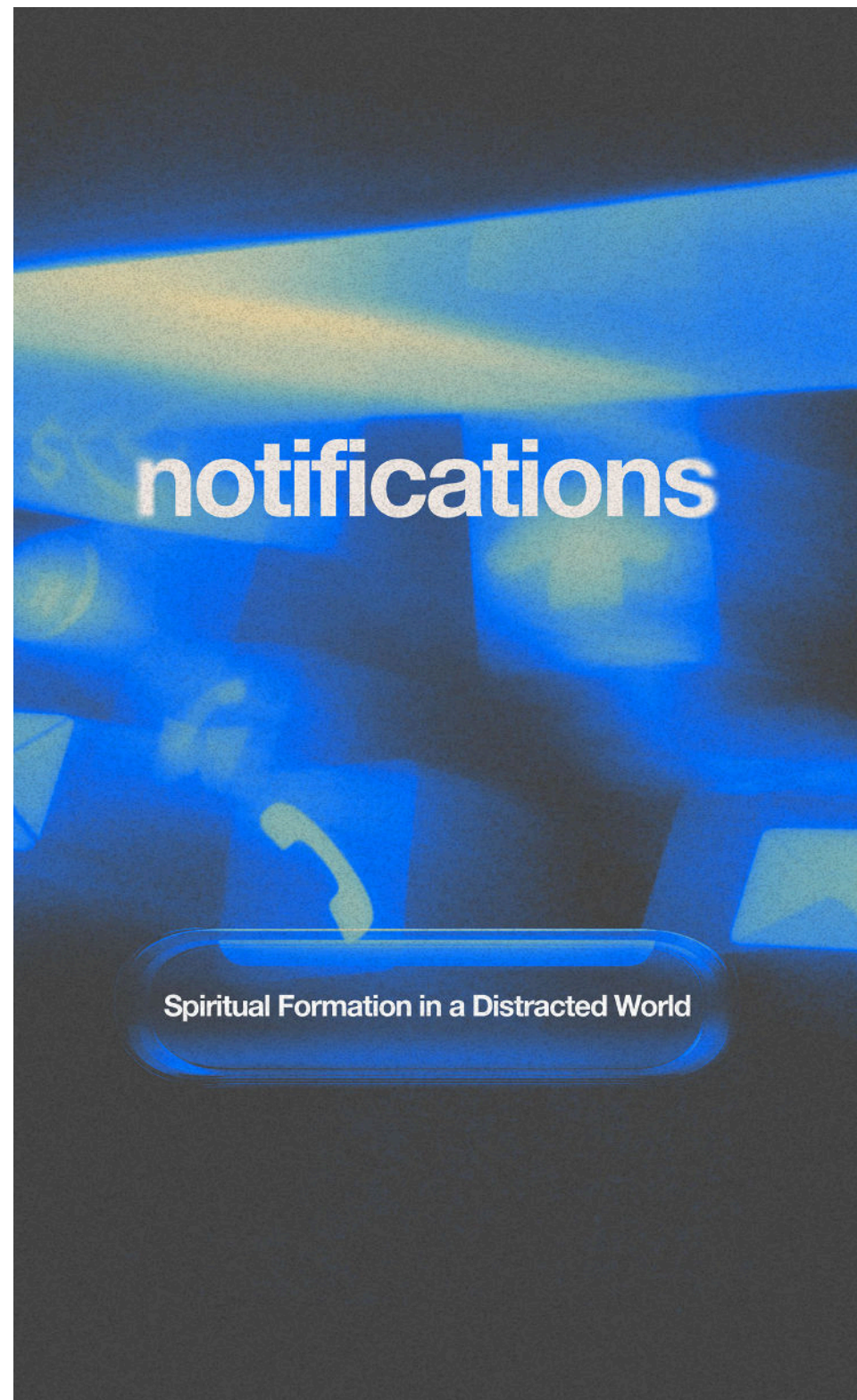
Sacred Marriage | Sept. 10-Oct. 29 (Thurs) **6:30-8:30 PM | Wesley 703/704**

Facilitated by Ron & Vanessa Smeberg
What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy? Whether you've been married for six months or sixty years, every marriage has room to grow! Learn more and sign-up at Coker.org/Events



"Women's Monday Night Zoom Bible Study: 'The Gospel of John'" **Sept. 14-Oct. 26, 8-9 PM | Online via Zoom**

Facilitated by Cheryl Kendall. Slow down and linger with the Living Word. In this 7-session study by Melissa Spoelstra, you'll journey through the Gospel of John. Grow in intimacy with Christ and learn to walk, serve, and rest in His peace. Books are available at Amazon and Lifeway. Register at: Coker.org/Events



TODAY'S WORSHIP at 8 AM

13th Sunday after Pentecost - August 23, 2026

PRELUDE - Since I Have Been Redeemed - arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME and OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE** - Come, Thou Almighty King #27

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** and **GLORIA PATRI** #691/#33

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - Joys and Concerns

UNISON PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

Holy God Almighty, we confess that we fail to live as your body in the world connected by the peace of Christ. We neglect the gifts you have given us and shy away from proclaiming your truth. Forgive us and renew us to be faithful witnesses to your holy Kingdom. We pray this in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN SING

OFFERING OUR TITHES, GIFTS AND PRESENCE

OFFERTORY - "He Will Carry You" by Scott Wesley Brown
Agape Choir

***DOXOLOGY** #682

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

***SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 11:25-30 NRSV Mary Eck

SERMON "The Hamster Wheel" Rev. Dr. Adam Knight

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT** - He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought #73

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

***SENDING FORTH** - He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought - Refrain #73

POSTLUDE - Postlude on "Beach Spring" - arr. Mark Hayes

*Please stand, as able

FIRST TIME GUEST?

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us today! At Coker, we have a place for you to belong and a plan to grow in Jesus. Come by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex or outside the Sanctuary so we can meet you, or visit Coker.org/Events to sign up for the next Connecting at Coker!

NOTES

"The Hamster Wheel" - Matthew 11:25-30 NRSV

Clergy

Rev. Dr. Adam Knight, Senior Pastor
Rev. Damon Relder, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Clay Smallwood, Pastor of NextGen Ministries
Rev. José Mercado, Pastor of Coker Español

Music and Worship

Paul Trejo, Director of Contemporary Worship
Dr. Mark Humphrey, Director of Music and Worship Arts
Mary Lowder, Organist

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