

RENEW

talk it
over

KEY SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51.7-10

GROW

To walk by the Spirit is counter-intuitive to everything we want to do in the flesh. The Spirit says pray, we want to sleep. The Spirit says sleep, we are scrolling through social media, or we are caught in the bottomless dive of YouTube videos. The Spirit says focus on the Word, sit in His presence, worship Him, and suddenly we have all the energy we never have to write out a grocery list, pickup the house, or wash the car. It's a paradox. It's exhausting. It's frustrating. And it is completely draining. The things we think provide life, or the things we think we have to do to live and enjoy life, become the things that steal our joy in this life. That's because our corrupt flesh believes our life will be happier if we do what comes naturally. If we just trust our gut, and go with our instincts, or follow our heart. And the problem is these things are all based on the flesh. Jesus commands us to "watch and pray" and to be guided by the Spirit "into all truth" and He tells us "The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life." When your flesh makes demands of you, choose to die, and believe you are dying to find life.

Read: Deuteronomy 5.33 // 26.17 // Ezekiel 36.27 // Matthew 26.41 // Romans 7

LOOK

How are you submitting to the Spirit or stumbling in the flesh?

Do you think it's possible that all these years you've missed the point?
How?

Where is your personality, and the person the Spirit is calling you into in conflict?

How much have you grown or matured in 2018?

It's often difficult to see our growth. What are some ways you can record growth, and help reveal and remind yourself of your progress?