

Get With The Times Class 05: the economy

- In your next vacation layout, include how a financial choice led you to that destination. Years of saving? An economy-driven staycation? A family cabin for which you share costs?
- Consider including some budget details in your layouts. Do you cut coupons? Are you down to one car? Are you making a conscious effort to spend less and save more? And why?
- What ways do you save money? How are you teaching your children to save?
- What was your minimum wage compared to anyone who might be making minimum wage now?
- Think about how many changes you've made in the past year due to the economy alone – make a list and use that for a page.
- If you had five dollars, what would you buy? How about \$100, \$1000, or \$5000?

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- What is your favorite simple/non-money-spending pleasure?
- Are you actively working towards debt-free living? Consider documenting your progress.

**** Note. I know that many of these topics are maybe of a more personal nature, but I still do believe they are important to get down. I don't keep all my layouts in the 'anyone can grab and look at' albums – I have other, more personal, layouts that I create with my kids in mind. Layouts that share our trials, our choices, our journey to debt-free living, our hurdles; those pages are documented for my children only. Just because the audience is smaller, doesn't mean that they are any less worthwhile.

*** Exercise – With your focus on an everyday layout, say – a holiday, a birthday, the first day of school – see if you can journal in such a way as to subtly weave in something about the economy without that being the focus of your page.

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