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No Recession, No Crash, A soft Landing. INFLATION DIES.

The recent news on consumer inflation is a cause for celebration, as experts note that the numbers are finally stabilizing, signaling a return to normalcy after the pandemic.

For those of us who aren't economists, it's exciting to see headline inflation drop below 3% for the first time since 2021. The fact that inflation has decreased from over 9% to 2.9% in just two years, without causing a recession, is an extraordinary achievement that has only happened once in the last sixty years.



Ok, but I'm still feeling it, so what do I do?

First, take control of your spending. Get with (me) or a Financial Advisor. Have a plan. Cut up your plastic. Live within your means. These answers are simplistic and NOT the fix-all, but you have to do the work.

### 1. High-Interest Debt:

 Consider debt settlement or consolidation to reduce debt and save on interest payments.

### 2. Subscription Services:

o Review and reduce subscriptions by cutting unused or overlapping services.

### 3. Dining Out and Takeout:

 Reduce dining out frequency by cooking at home. I know people it's easy to spend THOUSANDS annually on food away from home.

# 4. Vehicle Expenses:

 Downsize by selling unused cars, saving \$200 to \$400 monthly on insurance, maintenance, and loan payments.

## 5. Cable and Internet Packages:

 Downgrade cable or switch to internet-only plans with streaming services month. But be careful as the Streamers can also accumulate.

#### 6. High-End Smartphones:

 Opt for older smartphone models. I'm slow to learn cuz I love tech. The Samsung S 21+ broke, so I replaced it – not with an S24, but another S21+. This time I spent \$400. Last time? \$1,400!

### 7. Brand-Name Groceries:

 Switch to store-brand groceries, which are nearly identical in quality but significantly cheaper. If you have not noticed? People have been flocking to WalMart. I'll give another plug for Aldis.

### 8. Gym Memberships:

 Consider free or low-cost alternatives like outdoor exercises or online classes to stay fit without high costs. Example: I gave up the gym membership for a good set of Resistance Bands you use at home. Plus? Walking 4 or 5 miles a day is free.

### 9. Daily Coffee Purchases:

 Brew coffee at home instead of buying from cafes, which can dramatically cut down monthly expenses.