Philippine's Steps to Launching her Life Dream...Inspiration for Yours!

 Step 1: Philippine's Life Dream: As early as 8 - 12 years old (~1780), Philippine's heart stirs when she hears French missionary priests tell stories of serving on the American frontier. Her dream of bringing the heart of Jesus to Native Americans intensifies as she grows older. What is your dream job or life's work? How old do you think you will be when you achieve your dream job? How long are you willing to wait and work for your dream to come true? 	 Step 4: Building Community and Committing to her Vocation: Mother Barat invites Philippine to join the Society of the Sacred Heart—at age 35 she is a novice again. A year later (1805), Rose Philippine Duchesne makes her vows as a religious of the Sacred Heart. What are you passionate about doing in your life? Are you willing to publicly profess your desire like Philippine did? How important is it for you to have community (family, school and friends) support in your life? Give an example.
 Step 2: Obstacles to Philippine's Dream: Philippine's father disapproves of his daughter entering religious life French Revolution—war torn society Failure trying to restore Ste. Marie d'En Haut convent after the war Do you think you will encounter obstacles in your life? Brainstorm a list of problems you may face. Philippine's trials taught her many life skills. In what ways can your obstacles become building blocks? 	 Step 5: Still Waiting As early as 1806, Philippine confides to Mother Barat that she wants to be a missionary in America and bring the heart of Jesus to Native Americans. Mother Barat tells her no "wait and pray. Later, perhaps we may think of it. It is out of the question for now." (p194, Callan) How do you deal with disappointing news? Philippine taught school and prayed for 10 years while she waited. In what way did all the waiting prepare Philippine for her mission? How can waiting and persevering prepare you for your future?
Step 3: Networking—Building Relationships: In 1804, Philippine meets Mother Madeleine Sophie Barat of the Society of the Sacred Heart and they become dear friends. What impact do you think your relationships will have on your life dream? Who are important people in your life now and why?	 Step 6: Finally the waiting is over! Launching a dream 1816—Bishop DuBourg from the Louisiana Territory arrives in France, looking for missionaries. They meet and Philippine is hopeful! 1817—Before leaving, the Bishop visits the Sacred Heart convent in Paris. Philippine begs for permission to go and her wish is finally granted! (p194-195, Callan) She is 48 years old, and has waited 36 years to begin her dream work. A Jesuit priest sparked her dream with his missionary accounts to America when she was 8 – 12 years old. How old is "old" to you? How would you feel if you were just starting your dream job at age 48?

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