



Searching for You **A Journey of Hope**

All my life I have been searching for **You**,
– *searching and searching and searching* –
and now I see that I found **You**.

As a new born babe,
searching for **You** in those eyes that looked down on me
as they gave me warmth and sustenance.

As a young child,
searching for **You** in that one special friend
as I yearned to be close to **You** and be loved by **You**.

As an adolescent,
searching for **You** in excitement and everything ‘out there’
as I thought I had to stand out for **You** to notice me.

As a young adult,
searching for **You** in everything intellectual and clever
as I tried to understand the world **You** created.

As a priest,
searching for **You** in holiness and the trappings of grace
as I strove to find **Your** love through saintliness.

As an older soul,
searching for the ‘**You**’ that is already within me
as my physical self gave me more pain
and my world got smaller and smaller.

And now, old yet no more than a child, and feeling oh so mortal,
I know that **You** were with me on every step of my journey
even as I searched in all the wrong places.

My searching was a Journey of Hope
that I know will shortly be fulfilled because I now see
that in every search **You** were ***always*** there for me.