An ENCOURAGEMENT from Ray & Stella Firth.

Hi everyone,

I know we've ALL been experiencing 'different emotions' during the past weeks of the 'Coronavirus' lock-down. But we've seen some wonderful ways people have used to 'support, encourage & uplift' each other in many 'weird & wonderful' ways. The 'one' that has stood-out for us, was the 'efforts' of Capt. Tom Moore to raise £1000 for the N.H.S. He set himself the target of walking the length of his driveway 100 times, to mark his 100th birthday. Well... we all know the result of that... don't we. ? He raised over £32 million with 'donations' coming from around the world.

And of course the song "You'll never walk alone" he recorded with Michael Ball... helped 'swell' the donations. WONDERFUL STUFF.

The song "You'll never walk alone" was recorded by Gerry and the Pacemakers in 1963 (the year Ray & me got married) and it was claimed as the ANTHEM for Liverpool Football Club and is sung at every home game. The 'words' have been a great encouragement & inspiration to thousands of people over the years.

Well as Christians the 'words' we 'claim'... for 'inspiration & encouragement' come from the PROMISE JESUS gave HIS Disciples before they watched HIM ascend back into heaven to be with HIS Father God.

HE said, **"Surely I am with you always ... to the very end of the age".** { Matt 28; v 20 }

Well some 2000 years after JESUS RETURNED to HIS Father... HE IS... STILL WITH US... through HIS HOLY SPIRIT... WHO lives in our 'hearts'...working IN us and THROUGH us.

So as HE 'works' IN ... the 'hearts & minds' of our 'scientists, researches and medical experts' to find a vaccine to combat the coronavirus ... HE is also 'working' THROUGH us... 'helping & upholding' us ... as we 'WALK ON' through the STORMS of ... 'isolation ... separation and bereavement'.

So let's 'not forget' ... during this time of 'lock-down' and the uncertainty of 'not know-ing' how long it will last: We are NOT ALONE. We have the ASSURANCE ... of KNOWING ... GOD IS WITH US ... ALWAYS.

Thanks be to GOD.