

Books That Have Most Influenced the Ministries of Our National Baptists

"And the Shofar Blew: A Novel" by Francine Rivers

<http://www.amazon.com/And-Shofar-Blew-Francine-Rivers/dp/1414370679>

Submitted by Reverend James Ellis, Washington, D. C.

Although fictional, Francine Rivers tells a story that has unfortunately been the reality for many pastors and churches. Pastors so easily get caught-up in the wrong things, make wrong choices, and become their own worst enemies. These self-destructive patterns often begin early in one's personal and vocational formation, as is the case with Paul Hudson, the book's main character. This is the first book that my wife and I read together as newlyweds and as I began seminary, and it is has helped me establish a firm foundation, first, in Christ and a never-ending commitment to my wife that would have been otherwise perhaps impossible to have come by as a young pastoral leader.