

## **BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 23**

### **Objectives**

**Upon completion of this lesson, students will be able to:**

- 1. Learn Twi names and their meanings.**
  - 2. Understand some life situations Twi names are derived from.**
- 

### **The culture of Twi names**

Twi people have the habit /culture of naming children relative to what is happening in their lives at the time. Therefore most names tell a story in the history of naming the family. Here are the names of my own children to illustrate this:

- o Gyidie- Meaning “Faith”- Faith and trust in God’s providence.
- o Anigye-Joy in the Lord for giving me a son. Joy was my overriding feeling at this gift of a son.
- o Adom-I felt that it was by God’s grace that I had this third child. The name is an expression of gratitude.

**Here are some common names often given with a religious reference to God-Nyame**

Nhwiren Nyame	God's flower
Ahumobɔro Nyame/Adom	God's mercy/grace
Gye Nyame di	Trust in God
Nyame ne yɛn wɔ hɔ	God is with us (Emmanuel)
Nyame na ɛma	Given by God

**Challenge Task:** Find out the meanings/messages behind other ten (10) twi names you have heard among the people you know.

**Also answer the questions below:**

- o What does your surname mean?
- o Find out as many names of your extended family relatives as you can. Any twi ones??
- o What do they mean??

## Word building-increase twi vocabulary

Learn twi names and their meanings. See illustration below and give own examples

Name	Meaning
Acheampong	One that gave birth to the king
Bediako	One who is in war
Danso	One who is reliable

## The culture of Twi names

Here is a fun fact:

**Twi names carry meanings. Names usually refer to:**

- 1. Circumstances**
- 2. Feelings**
- 3. Namesakes**

## Names given based on different circumstances and experiences

Abɛbrɛɛ	Suffered through delivery
Ababio	Reincarnated child
Bagyina	Stable child
Nyamekyɛ	A gift from God
Tawia	One born after twins

Nhyiraba	The blessed one
----------	-----------------

### Names given based on feelings

Atinka	English
Ayeyi	Praise
Ahobraseɛ	Humble
Nyamedɔ	God's Love
Aseda	Gratitude
Anounyam	Glory

### Practise exercise

- What are the namesake twi names in your family?
- What do they mean?
- What does your surname mean